THIRTY-FIFTH REPORT

BOSTON RECORDS.

BOSTON TOWN RECORDS

1796-1813.

A VOLUME

OF

RECORDS

RELATING TO THE

EARLY HISTORY OF BOSTON

CONTAINING

BOSTON TOWN RECORDS, 1796 TO 1813

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OF THE

CITY OF BOSTON

RECORDS RELATING TO THE EARLY HISTORY OF BOSTON

(*Formerly called Record Commissioners' Reports*)

This volume, which is the thirty-fifth in the series formerly issued under the direction of the Record Commissioners, contains the proceedings of the town from April, 1796, to October, 1813, containing the town proceedings in the ninth book of the original records of the town of Boston.

EDWARD W. McGLENEN,
City Registrar.

Old Court House, Boston.

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BOSTON TOWN RECORDS.

[NINTH BOOK.]

[1] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified and legally warned in public Town meeting the 4th day of July A. D. 1796. at old south Church, & adjournment.

Warrant for calling the meeting at Faneuil Hall.

William Cooper
Moderator.

The Committee appointed the last year, to make choice of a Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the Anniversary of Independence, Reported

that they had made choice of John Lothrop Esq. who had accepted.

Voted that the Gentlemen, the Selectmen, acquaint Mr. Lothrop with this Vote.—

AN ORATION.

to commemorate the independence of the United States, was delivered by John Lothrop Esq. at the old South Church.—

On Motion, voted that the Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to wait on John Lothrop Esq., and in the name of the Town, to thank him for the spirited and elegant Oration, this day delivered by him, at the request of the Town, upon the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America, in which, according to the [2] Institution of the Town, he considered the feelings, manners and principles which led to that great national Event, and to request of him a Copy thereof for the press.—

On Motion, Voted that the Gentlemen Select men, be, and hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to some one learned and able Gentleman, to deliver an Oration on the 4th of July A. D. 1797. That day being the Anniversary of the Independance of the United States of America, wherein the Orator is to

consider the feelings, manners and principles, which led to that great national event, as well as the important and happy effects, whether general or domestic, which have already and will forever flow from that auspicious epoch.

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

[3.] At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified and legally warned, in public Town-meeting, assembled at Faneuil-hall, on Friday the 8th day of July, A.D. 1796. ten O'Clock A. M.

Warrant for calling this meeting read.

Hon. Thomas Crafts Esq.
chosen Moderator, of this meeting, by a hand Vote.

The Article in the Warrant viz. To consider the application of the Directors of the Acqueduct Corporation in Boston, for laying the Pipes thro' the Town land, and to have a right to repair the same read, whereupon

Voted that the Select-men, be a Committee to take up this matter at large, and report at the adjournment.

The Application "that liberty may be obtained for placing posts in the passageway, leading from Ann-Street to where the late swing bridge stood" read and committed

Hon. Thomas Dawes Esq.
Jos. May
Paul Revere Esqs
to consider the same, and report at the Adjournment.

[4.] The Petition of Samuel Cooper, for the purchase of a small piece of land at the back of his Store, read, and after debate, it was moved and voted; — that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition. —

The article in the Warrant, viz. whether the town will take measures to place the money in the Union-bank, on Interest, read and committed to

Thomas Dawes
Judge Minot
Samuel Brown
John Codman &
William Thompson Esqs
to consider and report thereon, at the adjournment.

The Petition of James Lovet Esq. and others, relative to land, where the late Rope-walks stood — read and debated, whereupon

Voted that the Select-men be impowered and directed to exchange the Town's right, in a certain ten foot passage-way, lying between the late Rope-walks, near Hutchinson Street, for an equal width upon Hutchinson Street, to be conveyed to the town, for the widening & accommodations of said Street, and that the Select-men be authorized to give and receive the necessary deed, securing the same, provided that no houses except handsome brick-houses, not less than two stories, secured with slate or composition, secure against fire, he erected thereon — which Vote was passed Nem Con.

[**5.**] Adjourned to Monday the 18th of July Inst. 10 o'Clock fore-noon.

Friday the 18th July. 10 o'Clock A. M. met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to consider the article in this Warrant viz. Whether the town will take measures to place their monies lying in the Union-bank, on Interest, reported as their opinion, that the Agents appointed for the purpose of building a new Alms-house, be authorized & empowered to invest the monies lying in the Union bank, arising from the sale of Town's land made by the said Agents in 6 per C^{t}. Stocks so called, until they shall want to make use of the same, agreeable to the Commission of their Agency.

Thomas Dawes per order.

The aforegoing Report, having been read and considered, Voted that the same be accepted.

The Committee on the Article in the Warrant, that liberty may be obtained for placing posts, in the passage way, leading from Ann Street, to where the late Swing bridge stood — Report as their opinion, that the Selectmen be authorized and empowered, to erect a post or posts, in such place, as to prevent Carts and Trucks passing through to Ann street. but not so as to obstruct a passage way for Carts & Trucks [**6**] round the triangular building now improved by Mr. Samuel Wells.

Thomas Dawes per order.

this Report having been considered, it was moved and voted that the same be accepted.

The Select-men being appointed A Com^{ee} to confer with the Proprietors of the Aqueduct, report that they have attended that service, have met the Proprietors and viewed the premises and are of opinion that leave be granted to them agreeable to their

request, but as it is uncertain, and cannot as yet be determined at which place they will enter the Town, your Committee would recommend to the Town, that a Committee be chosen and fully authorized to permit them to break ground, but that previous to which, such Contract shall be made in writing, as shall hereafter prevent any disputes, and shall not be injurious to the Town, and yet sufficient to secure to the Proprietors, all the benefits they wish for.

Thomas Crafts, per order.

The aforegoing Report having been read & accepted by the Town, it was

Voted that the Selectmen be a Com^ee^ to carry the same into execution

[7.] The Committee appointed on the Petition of M^r^. James Thwing, Report as their opinion, that the Town ought to make him a compensation for the Interest & damage which he suffered, and having heard the Petitioner, are of opinion that four hundred Dollars will be a reasonable compensation therefor.

Joseph Russell per order.

The aforegoing Report, having been read and considered, was accepted by the Town.

The Committee to whom was referred the Petition of Lois Clouston, praying reimbursement for extra expences incurred by the removal of the brick walls and chimneys of the former house, destroyed by the fire 1794. having viewed the premises and heard the parties on the subject of her Petition, and beg leave to report—

that the sum of three hundred Dollars be allowed and paid to the said Lois Clouston, as a reimbursement of the extra expences incurred by removing and rebuilding Wall, Chimneys &^c^. as set forth in her Petition—the said Clouston, relinquishing all Claims to the Lands taken by the Town, in order to widen the Street

Jon^a^. L. Austin per order.

[8.] The foregoing Report, read, considered & accepted by the Town.

The Committee to whom was referred the Petition of James Tate, praying reimbursement for extra expences incurred by him in removing the brick walls and chimneys of his former house, destroyed by the fire in 1794. in order to accommodate the town with a strip of land, to widen the Street have attended to that business, viewed the premises, and heard the parties on the subject of his Petition. Report

that the sum of one hundred and fifty Dollars, be paid to the same James Tate, as a full compensation for all the expence incurred by him as set forth in his Petition, in addition to the sum of fifty Dollars, allowed for the land taken by the Town.

John L. Austin
Joseph May
Elisha Sigorney

The aforegoing read, considered & accepted by the Town.

The Committee to whom was referred the Petition of James Tate, praying reimbursement for extra expences incurred by him, in removing the brick walls and chimnies of his former house, destroyed by the fire in 1794. in order to accommodate the Town with a strip of land to widen the Street—have attended to that business [9] viewed the premises and heard the parties on the subject of his Petition. Report.

That the sum of one hundred and fifty Dollars be paid to the same James Tate, as a full compensation for all the expence, incurred by him as set forth in his Petition, in addition to the sum of fifty Dollars, allowed for the Land. taken by the Town

John L. Austin
Jos. May
Elisha Sigorney

The aforegoing read, considered and accepted by the Town.

Adjourned to Wednesday the 27th Inst. 3 O'Clock P. M. in order for acting on the List of Jurors, laid before the town. — And the Town Clerk is directed to notify the same in the Chronicle and Centinel

Wednesday the 27th July 1796. 3 o'Clock P. M.
Town met according to adjournment.

The Select-men having as the Law directs, laid before the Inhabitants, Lists of Persons of good moral Characters, and such as they Judge well qualified to serve as Jurors.

The Town proceeded to examine s^d^ Lists, and selected one quarter of the number, being such as they judged best qualified to serve at [10] the Superior Judicial Court, and their names being written on separate pieces of Paper, were put into one of the boxes, to be liable to be drawn out to serve on the petit Jury, at the Supreme Judicial Court, and the remainder of said Lists, the names being written on seperate papers, were put into the other box, provided by the Selectmen, to serve on the petit Jury, at the Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace, all being done in Town meeting, and strictly conformable to an act, *entitled* "*an act*, for *regulating the choice & services of petit Jurors.*"

Voted that all matters unfinished be referred over to next general town meeting.

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town, be and hereby are given to the Hon. Thos. Crafts Esquire, for his good Services, as moderator of this meeting.

Then the meeting was dissolved.

[**11.**] At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified and legally warned in public Town meeting, assembled at Faneuil Hall, on Monday the 10th day of October, Anno Domini 1796. 10 o'Clock. A. M.

Warrant for calling meeting - - read.

Hon. Thomas Crafts, Esq. chosen Moderator by a hand Vote.

The Petition of a number of Inhabitants, that the Town would purchase certain lots of land, for the widening Vincents Alley, was read, and on motion, the question was put, viz. "That the Petitioners have leave to with-draw their petition."—

Passed in the affirmative, Nem. Con.

The petition for a new Street from market-square into State Street was read, and after some debate it was

Voted, that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition, almost universally.

Then the meeting was dissolved.

[**12.**] At a meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, qualified to Vote for Representatives to the general Court of this Commonwealth, & legally warned in public town meeting, assembled at Faneuil Hall, the 7th day of November, A. D. 1796. being the first Monday of the same month, 10 O'Clock A. M.

Prayer made by Revd. Dr. Haward.—

Warrant for calling meeting — read.

Paragraphs of Resolve of the General Court, for the choice of one Representative, for the first middle district, and for one Elector of President and Vice President.— read —

It was then declared by the Selectmen, that the Poll would be closed at half past one o'Clock, the bells to begin tolling at one O'Clock

Persons Voted for, as "Representatives for the first middle district of this Commonwealth, in the next Congress. of the United States. viz.

Hon. James Bowdoin Esq. - - - -	986 Votes
Harrison G. Otis Esq. - - - -	1408
Stephen Higginson Esq. - - -	1

[**13.**] Persons voted for as an Elector of the President and Vice President of the United States.

Samuel Adams Esq. - - - -	975
Thos. Dawes Esq. - - - - -	1428
John Adams Esq. - - - - -	1

two attested Copies of the Persons voted for as above, were sealed up in Town-meeting, and sent to the Secretary of this Commonwealth, by the Town Clerk, superscribed as follows, viz.

For John Avery Esq.
Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Lists of Votes for a Representative, for the first middle District of this Commonwealth, to the next Congress of the United States, from the Town of Boston. the other of the same tenor.

Memorandum — the Returns were put into the hands of the Secretary. by the Town Clerk.

Then the meeting was dissolved.

1797

[**14.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 13th. Day of March Anno Domini 1797. 9 O'Clock A. M.

Prayer made by Revd. Dr. Lothrop

Warrant for calling Meeting - - read.

Sundry Laws, to be read at this Meeting were accordingly - - read.

The Honble. Thos. Dawes Esq.
was chosen Moderator by a hand Vote.

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Town Clerk and the same having been brought in and counted, it appeared that

William Cooper

was chosen Town Clerk for the Year ensuing and an Oath of Office was administred to him by Mr. Justice Vinal - - —

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for nine Selectmen and upon sorting them it appears that the following Gentlemen were chosen. Viz^{t}.

Ezekiel Price Esq. - - - - - - - -	(excused)
Thomas Walley - - - - - - - - - -	d°.
Deacon William Boardman - - - - - - -	d°.
M^{r}. Ebenezer Sever - - - - - - - - -	d°.
Thomas Crafts Esq. - - - - - - - -	d°.
Thomas Edwards Esq. - - - - - - - - - -	-
William Little - - - - - - - - - - - -	-
David Tilden Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	-
Russell Sturgis Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	-

The Inhabitants brought in their [15] Votes for twelve Overseers of the Poor; on counting and sorting the same it appeared that

Edward Procter Esq.
John Sweetser Esq.
Jonathan L. Austin
Mr. Edward Edes
Henry Hill Esq.
Mr. William Smith
William Phillips Esq.
Stephen Gorham Esq.
Mr. Oliver Brewster
Arnold Wells Junr.
Dr. Retford Webster
Mr. Thomas Perkins

were chosen Overseers of the Poor for the Year ensuing.

Mr. Samuel Clap chosen Town Treasurer for the Year ensuing by a unanimous Vote. — — —

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for 16 Fire Wards, and the same having been sorted & counted it appeared that

John Winthrop Esq.
Thomas Melville Esq.
Jabez Hatch Esq.
Joseph Russell Esq.
M^{r}. Edward Edes
Amasa Davis Esq.
Samuel Parkman
Mr. Russell Sturgis

Henry Jackson Esq.
Capt. Mungo Mackey (excused)
William Scollay Esq.
William Little Esq.
[16.] Mr. James Tisdale
Joseph May Esq.
Capt. Robert Gardner
Maj^{r}. Andrew Cunningham
John May Esq.
Deacon William Brown
Capt. Nathaniel Fellows
Samuel Bradford Esq.
Mr. William Shaw
Mr. Joseph Mead
Thomas H. Perkins Esq.
John Winslow Esq.
were chosen Fire-Wards for the Year ensuing.

Mr. Samuel Clap
chosen Town Treasurer for the Year ensuing unanimously and was sworn to the faithful discharge of his Office by the Town Clerk.

Votes for a Treasurer of the County of Suffolk brought in, and counted by the Moderator and Town Clerk, when it appeared that the whole number was 222, of which 216 — were for Mr. John Demming 4 for Mr. Clap, and 1 for William Cooper all discreet, suitable Persons being Freeholders and resident in said County. Sealed and delivered to Mr. Price Clerk of Sessions.

Voted, that in addition to the Selectmen 12 Persons shall now be chosen as a School Committee and the Votes being brought in counted & sorted it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen

Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq.
Rev^{d}. Samuel West
Dr. Thomas Welsh
[17.] Rev^{d}. Samuel Stillman D. D. excused.
Honble. George Rich^{d}. Minot Esq.
Dr. David Townsend
Dr. Aaron Dexter
Mr. William Smith
Dr. William Spooner
Mr. Arnold Wells Junr.
Mr. Joseph Crocker
Edward Gray Esq.

Voted, that the above named Gentlemen who conjunctly are termed the School Committee, be and hereby are directed to carry the new System of Education which has been adopted by the Town into operation and said Committee are also authorized and

impowered conjunctly to manage and regulate the Officers and Government of the Schools, & in future to exercise all the Powers relating to the Schools & Schoolmasters, which the Selectmen or such Committees are authorized by the Laws of the Commonwealth, or the Votes of the Town to exercise any former Votes of the Town notwithstanding

Messrs. Shubael Hews
Benjamin Homans
Thomas Stevenson
Amos Lewis
Jirah Holbrook
Samuel White
William Bosson
Enoch May
Abraham Tuckerman
John Kennedy
Samuel Dow
Noah Butts

were chosen Constables for the Year ensuing.

[**18.**] Voted, that the Assessors be, and hereby are directed to sit for such abatements of Taxes as they shall Judge reasonable, two Days in each Week after the delivery of the Tax Books to the Collectors for the space of Six Weeks & no longer, saving they be allowed to sit the last Week in February, Lords Days excepted, for the abatement of the Taxes of such Persons as had not the opportunity of applying in the above limited time, by reason of their being out of this Commonwealth or any other unavoidable hindrance, and that the Assessors determine on the said two Days, which is to be noted on the Tax Bills, to be delivered the Inhabitants.

The Votes being brought in for five Assessors it appeared that

Gyles Harris Esq.
Samuel Ruggles Esq.
Mr. John R. Sigourney
Mr. Caleb Blanchard
Mr. Thomas Hitchborn

were chose Assessors for the Year ensuing.

Voted, that 5 per cent be, and hereby are allowed to the Collectors of Taxes for the year ensuing, for all such sums of Money and public Securities as they shall collect & pay into the several Treasurers of the Sums committed to them to Collect, also that such Collectors shall give Bond with sufficient sureties to the satisfaction of the Selectmen for the faithful discharge of their duty in said Office, and complying with this Vote, and that they will not [**19**] receive any Premium or gratuity for discounting any Orders, Notes, or Receipts from the Treasurer of this State or the Treasurer of this Town.

The Votes, being brought in for four Collectors of Taxes, it appeared that

Messrs. Benjamin Henderson
Thomas Bayley
James Thompson
Benjamin Jepson
were chosen Collectors of Taxes for the Year ensuing.

The consideration of Money matters referred to May Meeting.

Voted, that Herman Brimmer, Joseph Russell, Samuel Brown } Esqs.
be and hereby are appointed a Committee to Audit the Accompts of the Town Treasurer and also the Accounts of the Selectmen & Overseers of the Poor, and said Committee are also directed to Report the Sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present Year.

Messrs. Joshua Bentley
John Champney
Benjamin Page
John Cogswell
Benjamin White
Thomas Sherburne
James Blake
James Robbins
Edmund Ranger
William Clouston
[20.] William Darracut
Nathaniel Tidmarsh
were chosen Surveyers of Boards & Shingles for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Joseph Loring
Thomas Barbour
George Singleton
Edward Burt
Thomas Foster
William Parkman
John Bray
Henry Purkitt,
Jonathan Cushing
James Barry
Hezekiah Hutson
Philip Hichborn
Timothy Pease
were chose Cullers of Staves and Hoops for the Year ensuing.

Mr. Abraham Adams was chosen an Informer of Deer.

Messrs. Benjamin White
Moses Ayres
John Rice
were chose Fence Viewers for the Year ensuing.

[21.] Messrs. Thomas Bradley
David Hollis
Matthew Loring
Nathaniel Copeland
were chose Sealers of Leather for the Year ensuing.

Messsr. Jeffry Richardson
Isaac P. Davis
were chose Surveyors of Hemp for the Year ensuing.

Edward Tuckerman Esq.
Mr. Edward Edes
were chose Surveyors of Wheat for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Daniel Bell
George Hamlin
were chose Hogreeves for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Edward Jones
Francis Booth
George Hamlin
were chose Haywards for the Year ensuing.

The Selectmen
were chose Surveyors of High Ways for the Year ensuing.

[21*.] Messrs. Joshua Wetherly
John Wells
were chose Assay Masters for the Year ensuing.

Mr. Edward Rumley
was chosen an Inspector of Stone Lime for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Roger Bartlet
Joseph Doble
David Brace
were chose Cullers of dry Fish for the Year ensuing.

Thomas Walley Esq.
having declined serving in the Office of Selectman.

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given Mr. Walley for his good and faithful services as Selectman a number of Years past.

Thomas Crafts Esq. & Mr. Boardman having also declined serving as Selectmen the Thanks of the Town was Voted them in like manner.

Adjourned to 3 O. Clock P. M.

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* So numbered in original.

3. O. Clock P. M. Town met.

Messrs. John Cushing
Thomas Neil
Samuel L. Perkins
[22.] Martin Ricker Junr.
John Somes
James Andrews
Augustus Hunt
John Osborn
James Hall
Thomas Oliver
John Hancock
Uriah Cotting

were chose Clerks of the Market for the Year ensuing.

Article in Warr^{t}. relative to Wooden Buildings read & referred to May Meeting.

Article in Warrant relative to Bread. read whereupon

Voted, that Thomas Walley Esq.
Charles Jarvis Esq.
Joseph Russell Esq.

be a Committee to consider this Article and the Petition & to Report at the Adjournment.

Article relative to a Post being placed near Ann Street — read — & a Committee was appointed to make Report — but on Motion it was reconsidered; also on Motion

Voted, to reconsider the late Vote of the Town for placing a Post leading from Town Dock to Ann Street.

[23.] The Petition of Asa Fuller & others for Lease of Land on the Neck. read. also the Article in the Warrant "Whether measures shall be taken for the improvement of the Lands, each side the Neck — also the Article, what measures shall be pursued to prevent the Water overflowing the N°. West side of the Neck", also what measures shall be taken respecting the Contract & Lease made by the Town of part of said Lands with and to John May & others, whereupon

Voted, that William Eustis Esq.
Hon°. Thomas Dawes Esq.
Thomas Crafts Esq.
George Blake Esq.
Samuel Brown Esq.
Perez Morton Esq.
Joseph Russell Esq.

be and hereby are appointed a Committee to take the aforegoing Petition and Articles into consideration & Report at the Adjournment.

The Petition of Henry Hill & others on various subjects, respecting the Interest of the Town — was read — whereupon it was

Voted, that Hon^{b}. James Sullivan Esq.
John Coffin Jones Esq.
Henry Hill Esq.
Benjamin Austin Junr. Esq.
Judge Minot
Arnold Wells Junr.
John Lowell Junr. Esq.

[**24.**] be and hereby are appointed a Committee to take the aforegoing Petition & Articles into consideration, and to Report thereon at the adjournment.

Messrs. Jirah Holbrook
Capt. Joseph Gleason
William Jennings
Thomas Botter
Isaac Tuckerman

were chose Sealers of Wood for the ensuing Year.

The Article in the Warrant — viz. "To consider whether any or what measures the Town will adopt to prevent the erection of other Rope Walks on the Ground at West Boston, where they stood before the late Fire, was read — whereupon

Voted that Thomas Walley Esq.
Thomas Crafts Esq.
Mr. Thomas Dennie
Mr. Charles Miller
Honble. John Coffin Jones Esq.
Mr. Edward Edes
General Donnison —

be a Committee to take this matter into consideration and Report at the Adjournment.

The matter of Lamps, as to lighting, & referred to the Gentlemen Selectmen

[**25.**] The Article as to Bulls, read — whereupon

Voted that this matter be referred to the Selectmen — to proceed as usual.

Capt. Mungo Mackay having resigned as a Fire Ward had a Vote of Thanks for his good services while in that office.

Adjourned to Monday Fortnight, being the 27. Ins^{t}. — 10 O Clock A : M :

Monday the 27. March, 10. O Clock; Met according to Adjournment

Mr Price resigns as a Selectman, whereupon

Voted that Ezekiel Price Esq. have the Thanks of the Town for his long & faithful services as a Selectman.

Judge Minot & Dr. Townsend resigned from School Comm^{ee}. & had the Thanks of the Town for their good services a number of Years past.

The inhabitants having brought in their Votes for four Selectmen it appeared that

Abiel Smith Esq.
Mr. Jonathan Harris
Capt. Joseph Howard
Amasa Davis Esq.

were chosen.

[**26.**] The Votes brought in for one Fire Ward, when it appeared that Mr. Levi Lane was chosen.

On Motion for the choise of twelve tything Men, it was Voted, that the consideration of this matter be referred to the General Town Meeting in May next.

The Committee on the Petition relative to the Rope Walks at West Boston, have attended that service and beg leave to Report that the Assurance they have from the Proprietors in addition to the late Law "to secure the Town of Boston against Fires" makes it unnecessary for the Town to adopt any further measures respecting the said Rope Walks

Thomas Crafts per order.

The aforegoing Report having been read & debated—the Question was put, Whether the same shall be accepted—passed in the affirmative, and the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition.

Two Deeds of Mr. Allen Crocker &^{c}. were laid before the Town, said Deeds conveying to the Town a small piece of Land to enlarge Vincents Lane so called, conditioned, that the Street should be named Franklin Street, were referred to the Selectmen they to take such measures as they shall judge necessary.

[**27.**] The Committee appointed to consider the Petition of Asa Fuller & others for Lease of Lands on the Neck and whether

measures shall be taken for the improvement of the Land each side the Neck — and also what measures shall be taken to prevent the Water from overflowing the west side of the neck— and also what measures shall be taken respecting the contract and Lease made by the Town of part of said Land, with and to John May & others — ask leave to Report.—
That previous to a general disposition of the very valuable property of the Town, lying on each side of the neck, it is expedient that an accurate map of the same should be taken, and this they recommend, that the Selectmen should be requested to have executed immediately, and as the Committee have not had opportunity to ascertain the whole of the Land which is the property of the Town at the present time & of course are, not ready to suggest the most expedient & profitable arrangement which can be made of it, they ask leave to sit again, And in the mean time as it is not probable the Town can proceed to an immediate division and appropriation of the said Lands. —

The Committee recommend that the Selectmen should be authorized to continue the Lease of the Land occupied by Asa Fuller and others as a Candle Manufactory for the term of one Year and at the expiration of this Lease, that he be authorized to remove the Buildings erected by him and his associates on the said Land, — And that the Selectmen be further authorized to lease for the [28] term of one Year all other Lands belonging to the Town and lying on both sides of the Neck on Terms most advantageous to the Town, The Lessees to keep the fences in good repair, to guard and cultivate the Trees which are standing, and to supply those which are deficient, and in case the Town shall resume its rights to any part of the Lands within the Year, for the purpose of Streets or Building Lots a reasonable deduction to be made for the same — With respect to the overflowing of the Water on the N°. west side, the Comm^ee are of [the opinion] that the repairing of the wall now about to be effected by John May & others, the present Lessees, will be sufficient for the purpose — And the Comm^ee. are of opinion that the Town should instruct the Selectmen to guard against, the continuance of a Slaughter-house which now stands on a Lot of the Towns Land, on the south side of the Neck, as they conceive the same to be injurious to the health of the Inhabitants.

William Eustis p^r. Order.

The aforegoing Report having been read, and considered — the Question was put Viz^t. " Whether said Report be accepted — Passed in the affirmative — and the Comm^ee have leave to set again. —

The Committee's, Report on the Petition of Henry Hill Esq. and others.—

[29.] Town meeting by adjournment March 27. 1797.

The Committee to whom was referred the Petition of Henry Hill & others, & who were also directed to Consider & report, what measures might with propriety be pursued, in order to protect the Inhabitants against Burglaries & Thefts, beg leave to Report.

That no late alteration has been made in the authority delegated to the Selectmen to establish the assize of Bread, and they do not find that it is necessary to adopt any measures, at present, on that subject.

Upon considering the Article in the said Petition which relates to the adoption of Hearses at Funerals, the Committee do not perceive any advantage, which will probably result from any resolution of the Town upon that subject.

The gloomy pageantry, & Useless [parade] founded in the manners and habits of the barbarous ages and hitherto adopted on the melancholly occasions, have been gradually wearing away; and the Comm^ee^. are convinced, that the prudent reflections, and cool reasoning of a Republican, and enlightened Community, will much better produce the remedy wished for, than any positive regulations in the nature of Sumptuary Laws.

As to all other matters mentioned in said Petition, the Committee are happy to Report, that the [**30**] Laws now in being, including the by laws of the Town, are amply sufficient if they are duly executed, to remedy every evil complained of.—

Under this idea, and upon all the other matters referred to them, the Committee ask leave to submit a general Report for the Consideration of the Town.—that there is a necessity to establish some easy, prompt, respectable, and expedient manner of trying causes, and inflicting punishments, in order to render the Inhabitants secure from the depredations of evilly disposed, idle, and vagrant Persons, and in order to carry the wholesome Laws against monopolies, forestalling, nuisances, frauds, and cheats of every description, as well as the good and well adapted by laws of the Town into effectual Execution.—

A very great proportion of the offences, with which the Town are now alarmed, cannot, under the Constitution of the Commonwealth, be tried by a Justice of the Peace.—The Court of Sessions is holden but once in a quarter of an Year, and the Emoluments of the Office of a Justice of the Sessions, are not such as will induce Men to spend time in order to obtain that information in matters of Jurisprudence, which is necessary to an effectual energetic, execution of the Laws.—

Besides this, the mode of Prosecution is so prolix & dilatory, that the Prosecutor is a sufferer in many instances, nearly equal to the person prosecuted.

The expence of holding Prisoners for trial, and the impracticability of detaining Witnesses, are great discouragements to those who attempt to enforce [31] the Execution of the Laws, and as great encouragements to those who violate them, and who by these means frequently escape with impunity.

The Committee are therefore of opinion that the Town ought to appoint Agents to Petition the Legislature, for the purpose of obtaining an Act, for establishing a Court for the Town of Boston, to be holden by one able and discreet Judge, appointed according to the Constitution by the Supreme Executive, on the first Monday in every Month, with power to adjourn from day to day—and that the same Court shall have cognizance of all offences, and crimes committed within the Town of Boston to which a capital punishment is not annexed,—And shall have power also, to try all offences against the By Laws of the Town,—frauds, deceits, monopolies, forestalling, regrading [regarding?] thefts, nuisances, and breaches of the Peace.

And also, to enquire into and execute the Laws against Vagrants, and those against Lewdness, Bawdy houses and other disorderly places, and to possess such Powers as the Legislature from time to time, shall think proper to invest the same Court with.—
that the said Court shall have power to summon a petit Jury, where the Constitution and Laws shall render it necessary. And for the ease of the Citizens of the Town, that the standing grand Jurors annually chosen shall be increased so as that the whole number within the Town may be fifteen, and that they may be summoned at the Town Court, and be there impannelled as a Grand Jury, with all the Powers incident to that body, by the Constitution & Laws.

[32.] That the Town be authorized to choose an advocate annually, who shall have power, and whose duty it shall be to receive Complaints, draw bills, file informations, and conduct prosecutions, in the Court according to the Laws, in being, By Order of the Committee.

Ja Sullivan Chairman

The aforegoing Report having been read was approved of and accepted by the Town—also

Voted that the Committee who made this Report Viz^{t}.

Honble. James Sullivan Esq.
Honble. John Coffin Jones Esq.
Henry Hill Esq.
Honble. Benjamin Austin Junr. Esq.
Honble. George Rich^{d}. Minot Esq.
Arnold Wells Junr.
John Lowell Junr. Esq.

be, and hereby are appointed the Committee or Agents to Petition the Legislature for obtaining an Act to affect the purposes mentioned in said Petition.

Committee relative to Bakers Reported, & their Report was not accepted — but on Motion it was Voted, to be the sense of the Town that the Assize Law on Bread be repealed, and that in future Bread be sold by weight. —

On Motion Voted, that the Selectmen be requested to insert an Article in the Warrant for next Town Meeting to take the sense of y^e^. Inhabitants on the expediency of having at all future Elections [**33**] a list of all the qualified Voters belonging to the Town.

On Motion Voted, that
All Matters unfinished at this Meeting be referred over to May Meeting, then to be acted upon & that this Meeting be adjourned to said Meeting.

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given to the Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq., the Moderator, for giving such dispatch to the Business of this Meeting.

[**34.**] At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, of twenty one Years of Age & upwards, qualified as the Constitution prescribes, and legally, in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall, on Monday the 3^d^. Day of April, Anno Domini 1797.

Prayer by the Rev^d^. Doctor Thatcher D : D :

Warrant for calling Meeting - - read

Paragraph of the Constitution, or Frame of Government relative to the choice of Govr., Lieu^t^. Governor, and Senators - - read.

It was then declared by the Selectmen that no Vote would be received but such as were unfolded, and that they propose the Poll shall be closed at half past 1. O Clock, the Votes to be received at the Table, — and the Bells to begin tolling at 1. OClock.

Persons Voted for as Governor, with the number of Votes for each Person - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - Viz^t^.

His Honor Moses Gill Esq. - - - - - - - -	869
Hon^b^. Increase Sumner Esq. - - - - - - - -	1054
His Excellency Samuel Adams Esq. - - - - - -	1
Hon^bl^. James Sullivan Esq. - - - - - - - -	27
Hon^bl^. James Bowdoin Esq. - - - - - - - -	1
Hon^b^. Elbridge Gerry Esq. - - - - - - - -	1
Hon^bl^. Thomas Dawes Esq. - - - - - - - -	1

[35.] Persons Voted for as Lieu^{t}. Governor with the number of Votes for each Person - - - - - - - - - - - - Viz^{t}.

His Honor Moses Gill Esq.	1062
Honble. James Bowdoin Esq.	788
Hon^{b}. Samuel Phillips Esq.	8
Hon^{b}. Increase Sumner	63
Hon^{bl}. James Sullivan	7
M^{r}. John Barret	1
Honble. William Heath	6
Hon^{b}. Elbridge Gerry	1
Charles Jarvis Esq.	1
Jonathan Mason Esq.	1

Persons Voted for as Senators for the County of Suffolk with the number of Votes for each Person Viz^{t}.

Hon^{bl}. Thomas Dawes Esq.	1132
Hon^{bl}. Oliver Wendell Esq.	1918
Hon^{b}. Benjamin Austin Esq.	823
Hon^{b}. Theop^{s}. Cushing Esq.	11
Hon^{blc}. James Bowdoin Esq.	808
Jonathan Mason Esq.	1845
William Eustis Esq.	50
Hon^{b}. John Coffin Jones	1117
Charles Jarvis Esq.	12
John Sweetser Esq.	13
Arnold Wells Junr.	2
John Duggan	7
John Magnor	9
William Little Esq.	2
John Codman Esq.	1
Samuel Brown Esq.	2
John Winthrop Esq.	2
Thomas Edwards Esq.	1

[36.] Attested Copies of the Persons Voted for as Governor, Lie^{t}. Governor, & Senators for the County of Suffolk were committed to the Secretary of the Commonwealth & the Inclosures sealed up in Town Meeting subscribed as follows Viz^{t}.

For John Avery Esq.
Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The number of Votes for the Town of Boston for a Governor, Lie^{t}. Governor, & four Senators for the County of Suffolk; Certified within and sealed up in Town Meeting.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[37.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified, & legally warned, in pub-

lic Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 11th. Day of May, Anno Domini 1796, 10 oClock A. M.

Prayer was made by the Revd. Mr. Elliot

Warrant for calling the Meeting - - read

That part of the Constitution or Frame of Government which relates to the choice of Representatives - - read.

Sundry Laws to be read at said Meeting were accordingly (or parts of them) - - read.

The Town having determined by a Vote, to choose Seven Representatives to Represent them in the General Court of Massachusetts, to be held in the State House in Boston, on the last Wednesday of May Current, agreeable to the Constitution or Frame of Government for Massachusetts,—the Inhabitants were directed by the Selectmen to withdraw & bring in their Votes, for Seven Representatives, and then it was declared by the Selectmen that no Votes would be received but such as are unfolded, and that they propose the Poll shall be closed at half past one OClock; the Assessors to attend at the delivery of Votes, & the Bells to begin tolling at 1 OClock, & continue tolling to the time half an Hour is expired

[38.] The Votes being brought in for Seven Representatives, the number of the same were found to be 1582, and upon sorting them it appeared, that the following Seven Gentlemen had obtained a majority of Votes - - - - - - - - - - - Vizt.

	Votes.
William Eustis Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	1568
William Little Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	1199
John Codman Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	1315
Joseph Russell Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	1564
Samuel Cooper Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	896
Mr. William Smith - - - - - - - - - - -	939
Mr. Arnold Wells Esq. - - - - - - - - - -	931

The Votes, given in for such as did not obtain a Majority - Vizt.

	Votes.
Perez Morton Esqr. - - - - - - - - - - -	586
Samuel Brown Esqr. - - - - - - - - - - -	637
Honble. James Bowdoin Esqr. - - - - - - - -	645
George Blake Esqr. - - - - - - - - - - -	545

The scattering Votes as follows - - - - Vizt.

Thomes Edwards Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	72
Russell Sturgis Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	8
Henry Hill Esq. - - - - - - - - - - - - -	3
David Green - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	5

	William Parsons	5
	Thomas H. Perkins	3
	Samuel Cobb	5
	David Tilden	3
	Joseph Head	2
	Peter Smink	2
	David Townsend	3
	William Brown	2
[39.]	John Duggan	1
	Jonathan Mason Esq.	1
	John Winthrop Esq.	2
	Charles Jarvis Esq.	2
	Aaron Dexter Esq.	1
	Joseph May	1
	Stephen Higginson Esq.	2
	Stephen Gorham Esq.	1
	Charles Vaugn	1
	Daniel Sargeant	1
	William Cooper	1
	William Spooner	1
	R. Amory	1
	John Sweetser	1
	Andrew Oliver	1
	Deacon Boardman	1
	Joseph Eaton	1
	Nath[l]. Balch	1
	Thomas S. Boardman	1
	Daniel Messenger	1

Adjourned to 3 OClock P :M :

3 O. Clock P. M. Met according to Adjournment.

The choice of Representatives being over and declared by the Selectmen.

The Hon[ble]. Thomas Dawes Esq.

was chosen Moderator of this Meeting, in order that the Town may proceed on transacting the other affairs mentioned in the Warrant — the Adjournment of March Meeting being to the same time & place of [40] this Meeting in order to choose Tything Men, if the Town Judge Proper.

On Motion Voted, that when this Meeting is adjourned it shall be to Monday next — & the business of the Adjournment published in all the News Papers for information of the Inhabitants.

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned to Monday next, being the 15th. Ins[t]. 10 OClock A. M.

Monday May 15 1797. 10 OClock A. M.
Met according to Adjournment.

The Votes, being brought in for two selectmen it appeared that.

Benjamin Austin Junr. Esq.
Ebenezer Hancock Esq.

were chose Selectmen for the Year ensuing.

The Votes being brought in for two School Committee Men — it appeared that —

David Green Esq.
Rev^{d}. John T. Kirkland

were chosen.

The choice of Tything Men referred to March Meeting.

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}., To take the sense of the Town on the expediency of having at all future Elections a List of all the qualified [41] Voters belonging to the Town" was read & considered whereupon

1st. Voted, That the Assessors be, and they hereby are directed to furnish the Select-men annually, and forty days at least before the first Monday in April, with a list of all the rateable Polls within the town, noting in said list, the names of all those persons who have had their taxes remitted. —

2^{d}. Voted that it shall be the duty of the Selectmen to cause to be made out annually, and ten days at least before the first Monday in April, and to have present at every town meeting convened for the election of Governor, L^{t}. Governor, Senators, & Representatives in the General Court, Representatives in Congress, and Electors of President & Vice President of the United States; a fair and Alphabetical list of all the Inhabitants of the Town, being Citizens, who by the Constitution and Laws of this, and the United States are qualified to Vote at such Elections.

3^{d}. And in order to ascertain what constitutes qualified as such to vote at such election, it is understood first, that he was born in this, or some one of the United States and has not since become a Citizen or Subject of any foreign State or Kingdom; secondly, that he has usually [resided] in this, or some one of the United States, from the time of the declaration of American Independence, or thirdly, that he has been naturalized according to law.

[42.] 4th. Voted, that no Person whose name shall not be contained in the before mentioned list shall be entitled to give in his Vote, unless he shall first produce satisfactory evidence to the Selectmen that he is duly qualified, and after receiving such satis-

factory evidence, the Selectmen shall receive his Vote, and enroll his name on the list.

5th. Voted that the Town Clerk shall publish the foregoing Votes in the public news papers of the week next preceding the first Monday in April, until the further order of the Town.

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. "To consider what measures shall be taken with regard to watching the Town" — read and committed for consideration to

William Eustis Esq.
Perez Morton Esq.
Colo. Revere
Colo. Winslow

to report thereon at the Adjournment.

The Petition of Aaron Jaquish & Abraham French — read & Committed to.—

Colo. Proctor
Majr. Russell
Majr. Melvill

to consider & Report thereon at the Adjournment.

[43.] The Petition of Mr. Samuel Hunt Master of the Latin Grammar School that an allowance may be made him for House Rent — read & referred to the School Committee

Petition relative to out Door Auctions read & committed to —

Deacon Brown
Joseph Russell Esq.
Colo. Proctor

to consider, and Report thereon at the Adjournment.

The Article relative to fixing Sign Posts at Corner of Streets, Lanes & with the Name of such Streets — read & referred for consideration — to the Committee relative to Out Door Auctions &

Voted, on Motion that

Dr. Nathaniel Noyes
John Andrews Esq.
Mr. Samuel Whitwell
Majr. Bradley
Colo. Revere

be a Committee to view & consider the State of the Fish Markets — & Report thereon at the Adjournment.—

The Committee to Audit the Town Treasurers Accounts have attended that service and Report, they find the Accounts well vouched, and right cast. that there was due to the Town the 30th.

April Ult°. if the out standing Debts can [44] be collected, exclusive of $17382.74 appropriated

		c. m.
to build a new alms house - - - - - - - - -		$33230.53.9
from which deduct, Town Powder -	1041.94.5	
E. Brown 41. 11. 2 Acco^t^.		
In^t^. 1601.97.1 Rents 76 - - - - -	1719.8.3	
& for Aba^t^. & Collectors on 96 Tax say -	5.000.	7761.2.8
which reduces the bal. to - - - - - - - - -		25,469.51.1

There is due from the Collector on '96 Tax - - - - - Viz^t^.

Thomas Bayley - - - -	13314.46
Benj^a^. Henderson - - - -	11230.16
Benj^a^. Jepson - - - - -	13462.25
Ja^s^. Thompson - - - -	13048.84
	$51055.71

Your Committee are of opinion the following are the necessary Sums wanted for the Current Years expences Viz. - -

	$10000	- - for School Masters & Ushers
	1000	- - to repair Schools, Wood &c
	3000	- - for Watchman, Candles & Coal,
	2700	- - Assessors pay & allowances
	4000	- - Lamps Oil Lighters &c
	666	- - Town Clerks Salary
	666	- - Town Treasurer d°.
	300	- - Messenger to Selectmen
	33	- - Clerks of the Market
	150	- - Constables Services
	50	- - Reparing Clocks
	50	- - Premiums to Engine Men
	275	- - Printing & Stationary
	300	- - Ringing Bells
	7000	- - Paving Streets
	6000	- - Incidental Charges visit^g^. Schools &
	16600	- - Overseers drafts
deduct what may be rec^d^. for States Poor suppose	47.390	
	3.390	- - $44.000

[45.] Your Committee recommend that a Tax of 44.000 be laid for the present Years Expences — they annex the Treasurers General Account and a tryal balance of his Books. all which is respectfully submitted by your Committee. —

Herman Brimmer
Joseph Russell Junr.
Samuel Brown

The aforegoing Account having been considered — the Question was put — Whether the same be accepted — Passed in the Affirmative. —

Voted, that the Sum of Forty thousand Dollars be raised by a Tax, to be assessed on the Polls & Estates of the Inhabitants of the Town to defray the Expences of the Current Year.

Voted, that the Sum of Six hundred sixty six Dollars be allowed, and paid unto Samuel Clap for his Services as Town Treasurer the present Year the same to be paid him quarterly as it shall become due & to commence the 1st. March last. —

Voted, that the Sum of Six hundred sixty six Dollars be allowed & paid unto William Cooper for his services as Town Clerk the present Year, the same to be paid him quarterly, as it shall become due, and to commence the 1t. March last.

Voted, that the Sum of Four hundred & thirty three Dollars be allowed to each of the Assessors for their respective services the present [46] Year the same to be paid them Quarterly as it shall become due & to commence the 1st. March last

Adjourned to Friday the 26. Inst. 10 Clock A : M : —

Friday the 26 May Inst., Met according to Adjournment.

The Committee relative to Out Door Auctions & placing Sign Boards at the heads of Streets Reported —

That directions at the Corners of Streets, will be public Utility, & to reduce the multiplicity of Names, by calling a Street by one name only, till it terminates by some boundary, will render the direction less complex, & to make it easy to find the Store or Dwelling of any Inhabitants it will be necessary to number the Buildings from left to Right in relation thro each Street.

This part of the Report accepted by the Town & it was Voted, that the consideration of what relates to Out Door Auctions — subside

The Committee relative to Fish Stalls, Report. That they think it highly necessary for the safety & health of the Inhabitants, that no more Fish shall be exposed for sale in the Stall usually improved for that purpose. in Market Square, but that the Stalls be immediately shut up (the Salmon Stall included).— After consideration it was Voted that this Report be accepted, also that it is the sense of the [47] Town not to provide places for Fish Stalls. —

The Committee on Ms. Jaquish & French Petition for the

restoration of the Towns part of Powder seized — read and considered, whereupon Voted, that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition. —

The Selectmen a Committee on Mr. Samuel Hunt Petition, Reported that his Petition would be considered, when the other Salaries of the School Masters are to be taken up.

The Votes being brought in for four Constables, when it appeared that.

Messrs. Henry Cromston
Samuel Gridley
Andrew Townsend
Uriah Moss.

were chosen.

Voted, that all matters unfinished be referred over to the next General Town Meeting that shall be called. —

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given to the Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq., the Moderator for his good Services in the dispatch given the business of this Meeting. —

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

[**48.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified & legally warned, in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall, on Thursday the fifteenth Day of June A.D. 1797., 10 O Clock A. M.

Warrant for calling Meeting — read.

Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq. chosen Moderator by a hand Vote.
The Article in the Warrant, Viz^t^. to consider the request of a number of the Inhabitants that the opinion of the Town may be taken as to the propriety and expediency of applying to the General Court, in this present Session, requesting them to repeal the Law entitled an Act to secure the Town of Boston against damages by Fire, passed the last General Court" was read & considered, — whereupon

Voted, that application be made to the General Court for the repeal of the said Act — also

Voted, that the Selectmen be requested to inform the Representatives of this Town of this Vote, & to desire them to use their influence in the General Court for the repeal of said Act.

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

[**49.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified, and legally warned in public Town Meeting, at Faneuil Hall, the 4th. Day of July A.D. 1797.

Warrant for calling Meeting — read

William Cooper was chosen Moderator.

The Commee. appointed the last Year to make choice of a Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the Anniversary of Independence Reported,

That they had made choice of John Callender Esq. who had accepted.—

On Motion—Adjourned to old Brick Meeting House 12. O,Clock.—

AN ORATION

to commemorate, the Independence of the United States was delivered by John Callender Esq. at the Old Brick Meeting House.

On Motion Voted, that the Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to wait on John Callender Esq., & in the name of the Town to Thank him for the elegant and spirited Oration this Day delivered by him at the request of the [**50**] Town upon the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America, in which according to the Institution of the Town, he considered the feelings, manners & principles, which led to that great National event — and to request of him a Copy thereof for the Press.

On Motion Voted, that the Gentlemen Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to some one learned & able Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the 4th. Day of July A. D. 1798, that Day being the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America; wherein the Orator is to consider the feelings, manners & principles which led to this great National event; as well as the important & happy effects, whether General or Domestic; which have already, or will forever flow, from that auspicious Epoch

Then the Meeting was dissolved —

1798.

[**51.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall, on Monday the 12. Day of March, Anno Domini 1798,— 9 O.Clock A. M.—

Prayer made by the Rev^{d}. John Clark D. D.

Warrant for calling Meeting - - read

Sundry Laws to be read at this Meeting were accordingly - - read

The Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq. was chosen Moderator by a Hand Vote.—

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw & bring in their Votes for a Town Clerk, & the same having been brought in & counted, it appeared that

William Cooper

was chosen Town Clerk for the Year ensuing, & an Oath of Office was administered by Mr. Justice Vinal.—

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw & bring in their Votes for 9 Selectmen, and upon sorting them it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen - - Viz^{t}.

[52.]

Mr. Ebenezer Sever
Thomas Edwards Esq.
William Little Esq.
David Tilden Esq.
Mr. Russell Sturgis
Mr. Jonathan Harris
Capt. Joseph Howard
Benjamin Austin Junr. Esq.
Ebenezer Hancock Esq.

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for 12 Overseers of the Poor, & the same being sorted and counted, it appeared that.—

Edward Procter Esq.
John Sweetser Esq.
Jonathan L. Austin Esq.
Mr. Edward Edes
Henry Hill Esq.
William Smith Esq.
William Phillips Junr. Esq.
Stephen Gorham Esq.
Mr. Oliver Brewster
Arnold Wells Junr. Esq.
Dr. Redford Webster
Mr. Thomas Perkins

were chosen Overseers of the Poor for the Year ensuing.—

Mr. Samuel Clap

was chosen Town Treasurer for the Year ensuing unanimously.

[**53.**] The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for 24 Fire Wards when it appeared that

John Winthrop Esq.
Thomas Melville Esq.
Jabez Hatch Esq.
Joseph Russell Esq.
Mr. Edward Edes
Amasa Davis Esq.
Samuel Parkman Esq.
Mr. Russell Sturgis
Henry Jackson
William Scollay Esq.
William Little Esq.
Mr. James Tisdale
Joseph May Esq.
Capt. Robert Gardner
John May Esq.
Deacon William Brown
Capt. Nathaniel Fellows
Samuel Bradford Esq.
Joseph Head
Thomas H. Perkins Esq.
John Winslow Esq.
Capt. Joseph Howard
Benjamin Joy
Mr. Stephen Codman

were chosen Fire Wards for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. John C. Howard
Daniel Sigourney
John Avery Esq.
Thomas Geyer
[**54.**] Benjamin Hodgdon Junr.
Ebenezer Baker
Seth Adams
Rufus Davenport
Ebenezer L. Boyd
William Whitwell
Charles Paine
Edward Blake Junr.

were chosen Clerks of the Market for the Year ensuing.

Adjourned to 3 OClock P : M.

3 OClock P. M. Town Met.

Messrs Joshua Bently
Benjamin Page
Benjamin White
James Blake

John Cogswell
Edward Ranger
James Robbins
Nath[l]. Tidmarsh
William Darracot
William Clouston
Thomas Blake
William Ellison

were chosen Surveyors of Boards & Shingles for the Year ensuing, —

Messrs. Shubael Hews
Thomas Stevenson
Amos Lewis
Jirah Holbrook
[55.] Samuel White
Enoch May
Abraham Tuckerman
Noah Butts
John French
William Low
Samuel Gridley

were chosen Constables for the Year ensuing. —

Voted, that in addition to the Selectmen 12 Persons shall now be chosen as a School Committee & the Votes being brought in, counted and sorted, it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chose.

Hon[ble]. Thomas Dawes Esq.
Rev[d]. Samuel West
Dr. Thomas Welsh
Rev[d]. Samuel Stillman D. D.
Dr. Aaron Dexter
Mr. William Smith
Dr. William Spooner
Mr. Arnold Welles Jun[r]
Edward Gray Esq.
David Greene Esq.
Rev[d]. J. T. Kirkland
Rufus G. Amory Esq.

Voted, that the above named Gentlemen, who conjunctly with the Selectmen, are termed the School Committee, be and hereby are directed to carry, the New System of Education which has been adopted by the Town into operation and s[d]. committee [56] are also authorized & impowered conjunctly to manage & regulate the Officers and Government of the Schools, & in future to exercise all the Powers relating to the Schools and Schoolmasters which the Selectmen or such Committees are authorized by the Laws of the Commonwealth, or the Votes of the Town to exercise; any former Votes of the Town Notwithstanding

Voted, that the Assessors be and hereby are directed to set for such abatements of taxes, as they shall Judge reasonable, two days in such Weeks after the delivery of the Tax Books to the Collectors for the space of six Weeks & no longer, saving they be allowed to sit the last Week in February, Lords day excepted, for the abatement of the taxes of such Persons as had not the opportunity of applying in the above limited time, by reason of their being out of this Commonwealth, or any other unavoidable hindrance, and that the Assessors determine on the said two days, which is to be noted on the tax Bill to be delivered the Inhabitants.—

Voted, that 5 P Cent be & hereby are allowed to the Collectors of Taxes, for the Year ensuing for all such Sums of Money & public Securities as they shall collect & pay into the several Treasurers of the sum committed to them [57] to collect.— Also that such Collectors shall give bond with sufficient sureties to the satisfaction of the Selectmen for the faithful discharge of their Duty in said Office, and complying with this Vote; and that they will not receive any Premium or Gratuity for discounting any Orders, Notes, or Receipts from the Treasurer of this State, or the Treasurer of this Town.—

Votes, for a Treasurer of the County of Suffolk brought in and counted by the Moderator and Town Clerk, when it appeared that the whole number was 316., of which 311. were for Mr. Ebenezer Sever & 5 for Mr. Samuel Clap, both discreet suitable persons being Freeholders, & residents in said County, Sealed & delivered Mr. Price Clerk Sessions.

Voted, that Herman Brimmer
Joseph Russell
Samuel Brown Esq.
be and hereby are appointed a Committee to Audit the Accompts of the Town Treasurer, and also the Accompts of the Selectmen & Overseers of the Poor, and said Committee are also directed to report the Sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present Year.—

[58.] The votes being brought in for five Assessors it appeared that only,

Gyles Harris Esq.
Mr. John R. Sigourney
Mr. Caleb Blanchard
Mr. Ebenezer Seaver
were chose Assessors for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Thomas Bradley
David Hollis
Matthew Loring
Thos. Sullivan
were chose Sealers of Leather for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Benjamin White
Moses Ayers
Dan[l]. Ingersol
were chose fence Viewers for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Daniel Bell
George Hamlin
were chose Hogreeves for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Edward Jones
George Hamlin
Benjamin Simpson
were chose Haywards for the Year ensuing.

[59.] Mr. Edward Rumley
was chosen an Inspector of Stone Lime for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Jeffry Richardson
Isaac P. Davis
were chose Surveyors of Hemp for the Year ensuing.

Edward Tuckerman Esq.
Mr. Edward Edes
were chose Surveyors of Wheat for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Roger Bartlett
Joseph Doble
Jonathan Cushing
were chose Cullers of Dry Fish for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Joshua Weatherby
John Wells
were chose Assay Masters for the Year ensuing.

The Selectmen
were chose Surveyors of High Ways for the Year ensuing.

Voted, that all Money matters be referred to May Meeting. —

On Motion
Voted, that the Gentlemen, [60] the Overseers of the Poor be a Committee to confer with the Committee for Building an Alms House, & Report at the Adjournment.

Adjourned to 3. O Clock P. M.

3. O Clock P: M. Met according to Adjournment.

Messrs. Howard, Sever & Sturgis who have been rechosen as Selectmen, wished the Town to excuse them by their respective

Letters from Serving in that Office for reasons offered, but they were desired to take their seats again, as Selectmen, at least until the Adjournment.

Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. "To consider the request of the Assessors that some further compensation may be made them for their services the past Year—read, & the Question being put passed in the negative.—

The Article in the Warrant viz "To take into Consideration a late law of this Commonwealth entitled "An Act to prevent the spread of Contagious Distempers," And to determine whether they will choose & appoint a health Committee, or one person as a health Officer, according to Law—was read whereupon

Voted, the Hon^{be}. Thomas Dawes Esq.
William Cooper
Dr. Joseph Warren
Dr. William Eustis
[**61.**] be a Committee to take up & Report of this Article at the Adjournment.

The Article in the Warrant, vizt. Whether it shall be judged necessary that the Selectmen shall appoint one or more suitable persons, for measurers of Wood & Bark, brought into Town for sale, according to a late law of this Commonwealth—was read, as also the late law referred to, whereupon Moved, &

Voted, that the Selectmen be directed to follow the directions of the Law mentioned in said Article.—

The Article in the Warrant vizt. To consider the request of the Fishermen who have stands on the Dock, that they may be assisted by the Town to obtain others more advantageous to the Inhabitants, and themselves, than those which they now improve," —read, whereupon—

Voted that John Andrews Esq.
Col^{o}. Waters
Mr. Samuel Whitwell Junr.
Col^{o}. Bradford
Col^{o}. Revere
be a Committee to consider the matter, & Report at the Adjournment.

The Article in the Warrant—vizt.—
[**62.**] To appoint a Committee to confer with a Committee of the General Court respecting the disposal of the Old State House" —was read,—whereupon

Voted, that William Eustis Esq.
Josiah Waters Esq.
William Smith Esq.
be & hereby are authorized & directed to confer with said Committee of General Court & Report at the Adjournment.

Article in the Warrant vizt., To take into consideration the expediency of selling by Auction the Stands in the Market, or any other measures for the regulation of the same, — was read — whereupon

Voted, that John Vinal Esq.
Col^{o}. Winslow
Col^{o}. Waters,
Saml. Brown Esq.
Benjamin Austin Junr.
be a Committee to consider this matter & Report at the Adjournment.

The Article in the Warrant vizt. — To consider the request of a number of Black Persons relative to the education of their Children — was read — and a Motion made that this request be committed & the Question being put — passed in the affirmative.—

[**63.**] The Votes being brought in for four Collectors of Taxes, it appeared that —

Messrs. Benjamin Henderson
Thomas Bayley
James Thompson
Benjamin Jepson
were chose Collectors for the Year ensuing. —

On Motion Voted, that 12 OClock A M at the Adjournment of this Meeting be assigned for the choice of another Assessor.

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. What steps shall be taken to prevent dead Carcasses being thrown into the Mill Pond — was read — whereupon moved &

Voted, that Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq.
William Cooper
John Warren Esq.
William Eustis Esq.
a Committee relative to Health be a Committee to consider & Report thereon at the Adjournment.

The Article in the Warrant vizt. To prevent the Sale of Oysters in the Summer Months, read and committed to the above named Comm^{ee}. vizt.

Hon^{b}. Thomas Dawes Esq.
William Cooper
John Warren Esq.
William Eustis Esq.
who are desired to consider, & Report thereon at the Adjournment.

[**64.**] Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to Wednesday the 21st. of March Ins^{t}., then to meet in this place 9. OClock A.M & it was accordingly Adjourned.—

Wednesday the 21. of March 1798., 9. OClock A.M. Met according to Adjournment.

Mr. Nathaniel Tucker
chosen a Clerk of the Market for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Joseph Loring
Thomas Barbour
George Singleton
Edward Burt
Thomas Foster
William Parkman
John Bray
Henry Purkitt
Jonathan Cushing
James Barry
Hezekiah Hutson
Philip Hichborn
Timothy Pease
Job Wheelwright Junr.
William Fenno
were chosen Cullers of Boards & Staves for the Year ensuing.

Votes, brought in for one Constable, & no one having a majority of Votes, the choice of one is referred to May Meeting.

[**65.**] Committee relative to Stalls in the Market Reported, and the same having been read, it was moved & Voted, that the Report be recommitted & the Committee are directed to have said Report printed, & dispersed among the Inhabitants & they are requested to Report again at the Adjournment

The Committee appointed to take into Consideration a late law of this Commonwealth, entitled, an Act to prevent the spreading of contagious distempers, And whether the Town will appoint a health Committtee or one person as a health Officer. "And what steps shall be taken to prevent dead Carcasses, or other Nuisances being thrown in the Mill Pond, And to prevent the sale of Oysters in the summer Months, Ask leave to Report as

their Opinion — first, that it is expedient for the town to appoint one person as a health Officer agreeably to the Law before mentioned, And that it be a part of his duty to prevent dead carcasses, & other nuisances being thrown into the Mill Pond, & to cause any to be removed on Complaint of any of the Inhabitants, and that the Selectmen be requested to cause enquiry to be made into the right of the Proprietors of the Mill Pond to shut the flood Gates at West Boston, & to take suitable measures for opening the same in order that the health of the Inhabitants may be promoted; Second, That it is expedient for the Town to pass a by Law prohibiting the [**66**] Sale of Oysters within the Town, in the months of June, July & August — which is submitted

Boston March 21. 1798. Thos. Dawes P. Order.

The aforegoing Report having been read & considered was accepted by the Town.

On Motion Voted, that the Selectmen be the Health Committee.

The Committee relative to new Alms house, &c. Reported, & the consideration referred to May Meeting.

The Votes being brought in for one Assessor, & the same being sorted & counted — it appeared that

Colo. John Hurd

was chosen an Assessor for the Year ensuing

The choice of any further Selectmen referred to May Meeting.

The Committee appointed by the Town to Consider the Request of the Fishermen have attended that Business, Consulted the Petitioners, & Confered with the Proprietors of the Dock, who are disposed to accommodate the Fishermen in a manner that will be agreeable & Satisfactory to all Parties

Wednesday 21st. March 98) John Andrews P. Order

[**67.**] The aforegoing Report — was read and accepted by the Town.

On Motion Voted, that this Meeting be adjourned to Wednesday the 4 Day of April next 10 O Clock, & it was accordingly Adjourned.

Wednesday the 4th. April 10 O Clock P. M. Met according to Adjournment.

The Report of the Committee relative to the Regulations of the Market, was again read, and considered by Paragraphs, & after amendment the same was accepted by the Town — but on Motion

Voted, that said Report be again referred to said Committee, to give it such correction, & to make such additions as they may Judge necessary, & to Report to the Town at May Meeting.

The late Vote relative to Fish Market was reconsidered, & said Matter referred to same Committee

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given the Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq., the Moderator for the dispatch given to the business of this Meeting.

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

[**68.**] At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, of twenty one Years of Age & upwards, qualified as the Constitution prescribes, & legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled, at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 2^{d} Day of April, Anno Domini 1798.

Prayer by the Rev^{d}. Mr. Baldwin.

Warrant for calling Meeting - - read

Paragraph of the Constitution or Frame of Goverment relative to the choice of Governor, Lieu^{t}. Governor & Senators - read

It was then declared by the Selectmen that no Vote would be received but such as are unfolded, & that they purpose the Poll shall be closed at half past one O Clock—The Votes to be received at the Table,—and the Bell to begin tolling at 1. OClock.—

Persons VOTED for as GOVERNOR with the number of *Votes* for each Person. - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - Viz^{t}.

		Votes
	His Excellency Increase Sumner - - - - - -	1461
	Honble. James Sullivan Esq. - - - - - - -	103
	Honble. Edward H. Robins Esq. - - - - - -	2
	His Honor Moses Gill Esq. - - - - - - - -	2
[**69.**]	Honble. William Heath Esq. - - - - - - - -	6
	Honble. Benjamin Austin Junr. Esq. - - - - -	1
	Mr. Asa Penniman - - - - - - - - - - - -	3
	Hon^{be}. Benjamin Austin Esq. - - - - - - -	2
	Hon^{be}. James Bowdoin Esq. - - - - - - - -	1

Persons voted for as Lie^{t}. Governor with the number of votes for each Person. - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - Viz^{t}.

His Honor Moses Gill Esq. - - - - - - -	1557
Hon^{be}. William Heath Esq. - - - - - - - -	8
Hon^{be}. James Bowdoin Esq. - - - - - - - -	9

Hon^be^. Samuel Phillips Esq.	1
Hon^be^. Stephen Higginson Esq.	1
Jonh Vinal Esq.	3
John S. Lilley	1

Persons VOTED for as SENATORS for the County of Suffolk, with the number of *Votes* for each Person.

	Votes
Hon^be^. Thomas Dawes Esq.	1280
Hon^be^. Oliver Wendell Esq.	1574
Hon^be^. Benjamin Austin Jun. Esq.	10
Hon^be^. John Coffin Jones Esq.	1283
Hon^be^. James Bowdoin Esq.	298
Hon^be^. Thomas Davis Esq.	1279
William Tudor Esq.	299
John Codman Esq.	282
William Eustis Esq.	9
[70.] Charles Jarvis Esq.	3
Michael Moses Hayes	1
Perez Morton Esq.	1
Mr. Russell Sturgis	1
John Sweetser Esq.	2
Mr. John Wear	1
Mr. Andrew Townsend	2
Mr. Amos Lewis	3
Mr. John Peters	2
Harrison Gray Otis Esq.	1
Dr. Black Peter	1
Capt. Nickerson	2
P. A. Serreson	1
Thomas Edwards Esq.	1
Edward Blake	2
Hon^be^. James Sullivan Esq.	2

Attested Copies of the Persons VOTED for as GOVERNOR, Lieu^t^. GOVERNOR, & SENATORS, for the County of Suffolk were committed to the Secretary of the Commonwealth & the Inclosure sealed up in Town Meeting subscribed as follows - - - Viz^t^.

For John Avery Esq.
Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The number of Votes for the Town of Boston for a Governor Lieu^t^. Governor & four Senators for the County of Suffolk Certified within, and sealed up in Town Meeting.

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

[71.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualifyed & legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the 15th. Day of May, A.D. 1798, 10 OClock A.M.

Prayer was made by the Rev^d. Dr. Parker

Warrant for calling the Meeting - - read

That part of the Constitution or Frame of Government which relates to the choice of Representatives read.—

The Town having determined by a Vote to choose Seven Representatives to Represent them in the General Court of Massachusetts, to be held in the State House in Boston, on the last Wednesday of May Current, agreeably to the Constitution or Frame of Government for Massachusetts, the Inhabitants were directed by the Selectmen to withdraw and bring in their Votes for Seven Representatives, and then it was declared by the Selectmen that no Votes would be received but such as are unfolded, and that they purpose the Poll shall be closed at ½ past 1. OClock, the Assessors to attend at the delivery of Votes, & the Bell to begin tolling to the time of ½ an Hour is Expired.

The Votes being brought in for Seven Representatives, the number of the same were found to be [72] 1296. and upon sorting them it appeared, that the following Seven Gentlemen had obtained a Majority of Votes. Viz^t.

	Votes
John Codman Esq.	974
Joseph Russell Esq.	1058
Arnold Wells Junr.	1048
William Smith Esq.	1027
Mr. Samuel Cobb	875
John Lowell Junr. Esq.	896
Joseph May Esq.	840

The Votes given in for such as did not obtain a Majority Viz^t.

William Eustis Esq.	498
Stephen Gorham Esq.	77
Samuel Parkman Esq.	77
Rufus Amory	45
William Tudor	25
Deacon J Magner	12
William Spooner	30
Maj^r. Benjamin Russell	13
John Duggan	12
William Little Esq.	10
Honble. Stephen Higginson Esq.	13
Herman Brimmer	9

& 83 other Scattering Votes.

The choice of Representatives being over & declared by the Selectmen.

The Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq.

was chosen Moderator of this Meeting in order that the Town

may proceed in transacting the [73] other affairs mentioned in the Warrant.

Adjourned to 3 OClock P.M.

3 O Clock P:M: Met according to Adjournment.

Committee on Town Treasurers Account asked leave to Report at the Adjournment.

Mr. Sever, Mr. Howard, & Mr. Sturgis having resigned as Selectmen had the Thanks of the Town for their good services while in that office.

Article in the Warrant vizt. to consider the Request of the Aqueduct Corporation that the Town will grant or Lease a Piece of Ground Forty Feet square on Fort Hill for a Reservoir for the Aqueduct, and to act respecting the same as may appear to be proper — and also whether the Town will allow the said Corporation the Privilege of securing & boring their Logs on the Beach at the foot of the Common, was read - - - - - whereupon

Voted, that Judge Wendell
Josiah Quincy Esq.
Joseph Russell Esq.
Judge Minot
Dr. Eustis
be a Committee to take this matter into consideration and Report at the Adjournment.

[74.] Mr. Andrew Townsend
was chosen a Constable for the Year ensuing.

Committee relative to Market Reported, & the Question being put whether the same shall be accepted. Passed in the Affirmative, & the Committee are desired to Report from time to time, any further regulation they may judge needful for the benefit of the Inhabitants - - - - which Report is as follows Viz^t. —

The Committee appointed to consider the Expediency of setting the Stalls in the Market and what other measures are proper to be taken for regulating the same have attended that Service, and after mature consideration Report the following which is respectfully submitted.

The Convenience and Utility of Public Markets in populous Towns are so evident from the Establishment of them in the several large Cities and Towns, not only in Europe, but in the United States, that the Committee consider it needless to point out the Advantages resulting therefrom: as the Citizens by having a particular place appropriated for the purpose of purchasing

Provisions are enabled more readily to furnish themselves with necessary supplies, daily wanted in [75] their Families — A Public Market thus established depends for its Utility & Convenience on such prudential measures as may be adopted for the regulation of the same. The Committee therefore propose the following Plan for the Consideration of the Town.

1st. The Stalls and other Stands within the Market Square be let by the the Selectmen for such Periods as they may judge proper, and at such prices as to them may seem meet; The Rents to be collected daily, Weekly or otherwise, as the Selectmen may order by the Clerk of the Market, who shall be sworn to the faithful discharge of his Duty, and shall every Month account with the Selectmen for the Monies he receives, deducting therefrom his Allowance for services, And in order that the Persons occupying the Stalls may be known to the Citizens, the Names of the Occupier shall be painted at full length in a conspicuous place on their stall — The person thus hireing shall not transfer the use of his stall to any person unless the selectmen approve thereof and but one stall be let to one person and [when] two or more persons are in partnership together there shall be but one stall improved by them. That every person improving a stall shall furnish himself with scales and weights to weigh every commodity which is commonly sold by weight and if any person [76] should be found to weigh with steelyards after the first day of June he or they shall be deprived of his or their stall or stand.

No Inhabitants of the Town of Boston [shall] be permitted to occupy any stall or stand within the Market Square unless he shall contract in Writing with a penality annexed, with the Clerk of the Market by Permission of the Selectmen, that he nor any acting under him shall not expose for sale at such place any Articles except Beef, Pork, Mutton or Veal. —

When any Person holding or occupying a Stall or Stand if found guilty of buying any Articles of Provisions within the Town of Boston to sell again at an advanced Price within the Market Square or in the Town he shall no longer be permitted to hold any Stand or Stall within the Square.

The Streets within the vicinity of the Market & leading to said Market shall not be encumbred with Stalls, Wheelbarrows Benches or any other vehicle for the accommodation of selling any Article or Articles whatever, whether Provisions Bread or any kind of Merchandize: and the Officer or Officers of Police shall cause to be removed all such obstructions should any occur as speedily as possible.

Sellers of Meat Vegetables Fruit or any Article [77] of Provisions, shall not be permitted to continue in the Market Square for the Sale of any Article whatever after two of the Clock in the

Afternoon except on *Saturdays* the Days preceding Fast, Thanksgivings and Christmas — This Regulation is recommended that the Clerk of the Market may have time to cleanse the same of all those Substances which have a Tendency from Putridity to injure the Health of the Citizens.

6th. Wheelbarrows of any kind Hand Sleds or Hand Carts or any other Vehicle of Conveyance shall not be suffered to stand in Market Square for the sale of any Article except such as are excepted in the 5 Paragraph.

7th. The Horses & Carts shall not be permitted to stand in Market Square for more than half an Hour after their Arrival in said Square.

8th. The Clerk of the Market by Order of the Selectmen shall put the Laws in execution against Persons who may presume to expose for sale small Meats, of any kind blowed or wounded and if experience shall render it necessary, the Officer or Officers of Police shall aid him in the same.

9th. The Committee recomend that a Bell be provided and erected in the Cupola of Faneuil Hall to announce the oppening and closing the Market House which Bell shall strike at six of the Clock [78] in the Morning from the first of May to the first of October; and at eight of the Clock in the Morning from the first of October to the first of May — Those Hours to be fixed for opening the Market House. At two of the Clock P.M. through out the Year the Bell shall announce the closeing of the Market.—

The Market House shall instantly be shut and within half an Hour after the Market place shall be cleared of every Article of whatever description or Name.

And any Person presuming to tarry after the time specifyed in the fifth Article for the sale of any Article therein mentioned shall not afterwards be admitted to hold a Stall or Stand in the Market Place.

The Clerk of the Market shall be ordered by the Selectmen to put into full force the By Laws of the Town as they relate to the Market so far as necessity requires.

The Committee recommend that the Selectmen be requested to give instructions to the Officer or Officers of Police and the Clerk of the Market with a Copy of the foregoing Regulation with Orders to put the same into execution from & after the first Day of June next. And it is recommended that the same be published in ye. several [79] News Papers of this Town for the information of all whom it may concern. Thus far your Committee have

proceeded, they have endeavoured to collect the Ideas of observing Citizens upon which with other enquires. and their own observation this Report is founded.

Your Committee are further of opinion that as old Customs are not soon departed from the Business of a Reform in the Market may be entered upon with deliberation attended with improvement and pursued with firmness untill a Reform wished for by every good Citizen shall be accomplished & therefore recommend that a Committee be appointed therefore who shall Report to the Town as Circumstances require and opportunity may permit what further Regulations may be expedient.

John Vinal P. Order.

The aforegoing Report having been read & considered was approved of & accepted by y^e^. Town, and the Committee are desired to Report from time to time any further Regulations they may Judge needful for the benefit of y^e^. Inhabitants.

The Committee Report relative to Fish Stands.
The Committee appointed by the Town to Consider what measures can be adopted to accommodate [**80**] the Fishermen with Stands for the disposal of their Fish agreeable to their Petition, have attended the Business and the only Eligible situation they can find is at Pitts Wharfe over the Creek which they are sorry to find does not meet with the Approbation of the Petitioners They therefore must submit the business to the Town whether they will afford them a Stand in their Old situation near the Vegetable Stall which your Committee cannot by any means recommend.

Boston May. 1798. Jno. Andrews
Paul Revere.

The aforegoing Report having been read and considered was accepted by the Town.

The Inhabitants having brought in their Votes for three Selectmen it appeared that

Mr. William Porter
William Sherburne
Ebenr. Oliver

were chosen.

Article in the Warrant Viz^t^. To consider what measures shall be taken relative to the Towns Land on the neck was read — whereupon

Voted, that the Selectmen lease the Lands as usual.—

[**81.**] Adjourned to Tuesday next being 22^d^. Ins^t^. 10 OClock & the Selectmen were previously desired to advertize in

the Public Prints that all Money matters would then be taken up and acted upon by the Town.

Tuesday May 22d. 1798 10 OClock Met according to Adjournment.

The Committee appointed to consider and report upon the request of the Aqueduct Corporation beg leave to Report that they have attended their Duty in that respect and are of Opinion that the said Corporation be allowed the Privilege of securing by booming their logs on such part of the beach at the foot of the Common and for such a Period of time as the Selectmen in their discretion may appoint. But that it is not expedient to suffer any building to be erected or continued on the Towns Land there lying for boring Logs or for any other purpose whatsoever.

The Committee further beg leave to Report that as it respects a grant or Lease of a piece of Land Forty feet square on Fort Hill for a Reservoir they have examined the same and are of opinion that the Selectmen of this Town are the best Judges of the Expediency and if expedient of the manner conditions & limits of such Grant or Lease [82] and that the same be referred to them with full Powers to decide & act accordingly.

P. Order. Josiah Quincy Chm

The aforegoing Report having been read & considered was accepted by the Town also

Voted, that tho it is inexpedient that the building erected by the Aqueduct Corporation at the bottom of the Common for boring their Logs should be continued, Yet as the same is now erected and it will occasion great delay in their Works to erect another this season, the Selectmen are impowered to allow the same to be continued for a term not exceeding one Year from this Day upon the said Corporation giving bond to the Town Treasurer to the Acceptance of the Selectmen in the Sum of five thousand Dollars conditioned to remove the same building at the end of said Term or sooner if the Selectmen shall order the same to be removed and to pay such Sum for the privilege as shall be Stipulated in said Condition to take such measures as shall be contained in the same condition to save the Interest of the Town harmless from any injury in consequence of improving the same building for the purpose for which it is erected.

Mr. Oliver having excused himself [83] as a Selectman the Votes being brought in for one Selectman it appeared that

Mr. John Tileston

was chose Selectman for the Year ensuing.

On Representation of the Assessors praying that the Town

would grant them the same for their servises for the Year 1797. as they did the preceeding Year 1796.

Voted, that an allowance of One hundred Dollars be made each of them for the Year 1797 on Account of the rise of Provisions.

The Committee Appointed to Audit the Town Treasurer Account have Attended that service & Report they find the Accounts well Vouched and right cast. That there was due to the Town the 30th. April Ult°. by the Books Exclusive of the Money appropriated for building a new Alms House $17382.74

say - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		$34211 . 67 . 6
From which deduct Towns Powder - - - - - - - -	1041 - 94	
E. Breens debt - - - -	41 - 11 - 2	
Interest Account - - - -	2672 - 6 - 1	
Rents outstandg. - - - -	13 - 33	
Abatements on 1797. Tax -	2000	
Collectors Premium - - -	3600	
		9368 - 44 - 8
Which reduces the Balance to - - - - - -		$24843 - 22 - 8

[84.] There is due from the Collectors on 1797. Tax Viz.

		Cents.
Thomas Bayley - - - - - -	10338 . 30	
Benjn. Henderson - - - -	8342 . 58	
Benjn. Jepson - - - - - -	9877 . 77	
James Thompson - - - -	9668 . 24	
		$38226 . 89

The following Sums are necessary for the Current Years Expences Viz.

School Masters & Ushers - - - - - - - -	$10000
repairing Schools & Wood - - - - - - - -	1000
Watchman Coals Candles &c. - - - - - - -	3000
Assessors Pay &c. - - - - - - - - - - -	2700
Lamps Oil lightg. &c. - - - - - - - - - -	4000
Town Clerk Salary - - - - - - - - - - -	666
Treasurers D°. - - - - - - - - - - -	666
Messenger to Selectmen - - - - - - - -	300
Constables Services - - - - - - - - - -	150
Clerks of Market - - - - - - - - - - -	33
Repairing Clocks - - - - - - - - - - -	50
Prem. to Engine mendg. 2 new Engine - - -	750
Printing - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	250
Stationery - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	69
ringing Bells - - - - - - - - - - - - -	300
Paving Streets - - - - - - - - - - - -	7000

Incidental Charges visit^{g}. Schools - - - -	1000
Overseers Drafts - - - - - - - - - -	16000
	$48600
From this deduct what may be rec^{d}. from the State for the States Poor - - - - -	4600
	$44000

[**85.**] Your Committee are of Opinion that a Tax of $50000 ought to be laid to defray the expences of the Current Year They annex Genl. Account of the Treasurer and a tryal Ballance of his Books — Your Committee recommend that the Town desire the Selectmen to procure a Book and order the Town Clerk to keep Accounts agreeable to the Appropriations as above and in their Drafts on the Treasurer it will be proper to designate the Appropriation; they also Recommend that the Treasurer be ordered to Open as many Accounts in his Books as will conform to said Appropriations & charge each agreeable to the Selectmen's Drafts — so that in future the Town may know which & how much they fall short of the Sums granted.

Your Committee see no prospect of the old Notes being paid off owing to the backwardness of paying taxes, there is now due $38226 — of the Forty Thousand Assessed for 1797. which will only come in to pay the Selectmen & Overseers Drafts for 1798 therefore the Town is one Year in Arrears and unless the Inhabitants can be induced (by a Premium or otherways) to make prompt payment of their next Tax the Notes must remain unpaid they Amount to $11506 exclusive of Interest, All of which is respectfully submitted

Herman Brimmer
Joseph Russell Junr
Samuel Brown

[**86.**] The aforegoing Account having been considered — the Question was put Whether the Report be accepted — Passed in the Affirmative.

Voted, that the Sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars, be raised by a Tax to be Assessed on the Polls & Estates of the Inhabitants of the Town to defray the Expences of the Current Year.

Voted, that the Sum of Six hundred sixty six Dollars be allowed and paid unto Samuel Clap for his services as Town Treasurer the present Year the same to be paid him quarterly as it shall become due & to commence the 1st March last.

Voted, that the Sum of Six hundred sixty six Dollars be allowed and paid unto William Cooper for his services as Town Clerk the

present Year the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due & to commence from the 1st March last.

Voted that the Sum of Four hundred thirty three Dollars be allowed to each of the Assessors for their respective services the present Year the same to be paid them quarterly as it shall become due & to commence the 1st March last.

Voted that the Sum of One hundred Dollars be allowed to each of the Assessors the present Year on Account of the rise of Provisions.

[87.] The Overseers of the Poor who were appointed by the Town at their Meeting on the 12 inst to confer with the Committee for building an Alms House & have attended to that service and ask leave to Report the following Statement.

They find the Sales of Eleven Lots of Land which were sold by the Town for the above mentioned purpose to amount to Fifty Eight Thousand Eight hundred Dollars — The Interest on public Stock purchased and Rent received by the Committee two thousand five hundred & fifty one Dollars & twenty eight cents deducting from these Sums twenty three thousand eight hundred & fifty Dollars which are not payable agreeably to the terms of sale untill possession is given to the Purchasers, there remains Thirty seven thousand five hundred & one Dollars & twenty eight Cents to the Credit of the Town — Of this Sum the Committee have appropriated as follows. — for the Purchase of Land of Messrs. Bourn. Woodward & Phillips on which to erect the buildings; eleven thousand one hundred & ninety nine Dollars and ninety nine Cents. — for Lumber and the expences thereon seven thousand two hundred and twenty seven Dollars and twenty four Cents; for the purchase of twenty thousand Dollars in the 5½ P Cent funds sixteen thousand Dollars five Cents, the balance, which is three thousand & seventy four dollars, & five cents, now rests in the hands of the Town Treasurer subject [88] to the order of the Town — The Overseers wou'd observe the numbers now in the Alms House exceed any former Years and that the buildings are in a most ruinous state and from the imperfections of the present accomodations it has not been in their power to enforce agreeably to their wishes that Order and regularity so necessary in such institutions; under all these disadvantages they are however happy to say, that by the strictest Attention to Diet & Cleanliness, they have been enabled to preserve among the Inhabitants of the House for several Years past as great a degree of Health as has been enjoyed in proportion to numbers in any part of the Town. To complete the buildings necessary for the accomodation of even the present numbers (without calculating for the probable increase) on a scale that will be advantageous & honorable to the Town, it must be apparent to every one who will take the trouble

to calculate, will require with all the economy that can be exercised, a considerable additions of Funds beyond what are now at the command of the Committee, and the Overseers cannot refrain from observing that in their opinion the Committee have consulted the true Interest of the Town in suspending the execution of their Plans while labour & Materials continued so extravagantly high as even at the present time a very important saving has been [**89**] realized thereby. Altho the Overseers have been for several Years exceedingly anxious, that a more commodious House should be provided, and have with pleasure anticipated that the accommodations contemplated by the Town for our indigent and enfeebled citizens wou'd probably be in great forwardness in the course of the ensuing season Yet at the same time they consider it wou'd be highly injurious to the Interest of the Town to commence the work untill there is a certainty of being able without delay to progress so far as to render it habitable, and as the funds now provided are insufficient for that purpose they therefore submit to the superior wisdom & consideration of the Town to determine whether it is most expedient to endeavor to struggle another Year with the difficulties they now experience or to make a further appropriation of Monies & enjoyn the Committee to carry their Plans into effect without loss of time. — The Overseers wou'd only add that the numbers now in the Alms House only are 352. and have been regularly increasing it is therefore their Opinion that the new House ought to be calculated to contain 500 at least.

P. Order

Edward Proctor Chmr.

The aforegoing Report having been read & considered, was approved of and accepted by the Town.

[**90.**] Voted, that all matters unfinished be referred to the next General Town Meeting that shall be called.

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given to the Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq. the Moderator for his good services in the dispatch given the business of this Meeting.

Then the meeting was dissolved. —

[**91.**] At a meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified & legally warned in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 4th. Day of July A:D 1798.

Warrant for calling the Meeting - - read.

William Cooper was chosen Moderator.

The Committee appointed the last Year to make choice of a Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the Anniversary of Independence.

Reported —

That they had made choice of Josiah Quincy Esq. who has accepted.

On Motion Adjourned to the Old South Church — when agreeable to the information of the Chairman of the Selectmen.

AN ORATION

to commemorate the Independence of the United States was delivered by Josiah Quincy Esq. at Old South Church.

On motion *Voted* that the Selectmen [**92**] be and hereby are appointed a Committee to wait on Josiah Quincy Esq. & in the name of the Town to Thank him for the elegant & spirited Oration this day delivered by him at the request of y^e^. Town upon the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America, in which according to the Institution of the Town, he considered the feelings, manners & principles which led to that great National event — and to request of him a Copy thereof for the Press. —

On Motion VOTED that the Gentlemen Selectmen be & hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to some one able & learned Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the 4 July AD. 1799. that Day being the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America; wherein the Orator is to consider the feelings manners and principles which led to this great National event as well as the important & happy effects whether general or Domestic which have already or will for ever flow, from that auspicious Epoch.

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

[**93.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified & legally Warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 5 Day of November Anno Domini 1798. 10 OClock A:M —

Prayer made by the Rev^d^. Dr. Walter.

Warrant for calling Meeting - - read.

Paragraph of a Resolve of the General Court for the choice of one Representative for the first Middle District - - read.

It was then declared by the Selectmen that the Poll would be closed at ½ past 1. OClock the Bells to begin tolling at 1. O Clock.

Persons Voted, for as a Representative of the 1st. Middle District of this Commonwealth in the next Congress of the United States - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - Viz.

	Votes.
Hon^le^. Harrison Gray Otis - - - - - - - -	1726
Hon^le^. William Heath Esq. - - - - - - - -	936
William Eustis Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	3

A declaration was made by the Selectmen of the Persons Voted for as Representatives of the 1st Middle District. —

[**94.**] Attested Copies of the Persons Voted for as above were sealed up in Town Meeting & delivered to the Sheriff of this Commonwealth by the Town Clerk superscribed as follows Viz.

For John Avery Esq.
Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Town made choice of

The Hon^be^. Thomas Dawes Esq.

as Moderator of the Meeting to transact the matters mentioned in the Warrant.

Adjourned to to morrow Morning 10. OClock.

Tuesday November 6. 10. OClock AM. Met according to Adjournment. —

The Article relative to the Old State House was read, & committed for consideration to. —

William Eustis Esq.
Samuel Brown
Judge Minot
William Smith
Thomas Edwards Esq.

to Report at the Adjournment.

[**95.**] The Petition of William Powell Esqr. & others relative to cleansing & filling up Docks & was read & committed for consideration to.—

William Powell Esq.
Stephen Gorham
William Thompson
Samuel Parkman
John Codman
John Andrews
Josiah Quincy
John Coffin Jones
Mr. James Perkins
Aaron Dexter
William Eustis Esq.

to Report thereon at the Adjournment.

The Petition of Amasa Davis Esq. Quarter Master General relative to Ground for erecting a State Store — read, & committed for consideration to

Hon^{be}. Thomas Dawes Esq.
Thomas Edwards Esq.
John Codman Esq.

to Report thereon at the Adjournment of this Meeting.

The Article in the Warrant relative to Trunks was read — whereupon —

Voted that William Smith
[96.] Nathan Bond
Russell Sturgis Esqrs.

be a Committee to consider this matter & Report thereon at the Adjournment.

The Article in the Warrant vizt. — Whether the Town will dispense with the lighting the Lamps the ensuing Season — read — whereupon

Voted, that John Codman Esq.
Ebenezer Hancock Esq.
William Sherburn Esq

be a Committee to consider this Article & Report thereon at the Adjournment.

The Article in the Warrant relative to applying to the General Court for Restrictions on Aqueduct Corporation " was read, & committed for consideration to. —

William Tudor
Amasa Davis
Russell Sturgis
Joseph May - - - Esquires
Mr. Henderson Inches

to Report thereon at the Adjournment.

Voted, that the Selectmen publish the Names of the several Committees in such papers as they Judge proper for the information of y^{e}. Inhabitants.

Adjourned to Wednesday the 21. Novemr. Ins^{t}. 10 OClock A.M.—

[97.] November 21. 10 OClock A.M. Met according to Adjournment.

The Report of the Committee relative to Trucks read & after consideration & some amendments — the same was accepted by the Town & is as follows Viz^{t}.

The Committee appointed by the Town to take into consideration the Petition of a number of

the Owners of Trucks praying an alteration in the By Laws of the Town regulating Trucks so far as it respects the length of them — having heard the Memorialists on the subject & examined the clause of the Law of which they complain are of opinion it is not expedient to repeal any part of said Law, Your Committee are of opinion that the Clause in said Law which directs that the side of Trucks shall not exceed 16 feet in length does not include the *Shafts* but that 7 feet being allowed for the Shafts will be sufficient making the whole length of the Trucks including the Shafts 24 feet.—

William Smith P. Order.

On Motion Voted, that the Committee on the subject of lighting the Lamps do advertize for proposals for furnishing the Oil & wicks and lighting the Lamps of the Town during the Winter.—

The Report of the Committee relative to [**98**] Nuisances &c read & referred over to the Adjournment & that in the mean time the same be printed and disposed by the Selectmen amongst the Inhabitants.

The Committee on Amasa Davis Esq. Quarter Master General Petition Report.—

That it is the Opinion of the Committee that the Selectmen be authorized & impowered to accommodate Amasa Davis Esq. Quarter Master General with a piece of Land sufficient whereon to erect suitable Buildings for the purpose of covering the Field Artillery & houseing the most valuable military Stores & *as prayed for by him*, near the Southerly part of the Common; from the Land owned by the Town fronting on Pleasant Street & butting Easterly on Torrys Pasture so called. & that they cause the said Quarter M. General to fence in the whole of said Land — And whereas one Company of Artillery is already raised, & another now raising to compose the Legion belonging to the Town of Boston & the Ground on which the present Gun House now stands is otherways disposed of by the Town the Selectmen are requested to reserve so much of said Land as will be sufficient for the Gun house &. for the Artillery Company when they shall become wanted and that application be made to the Governor & Council for a Warrant on the State Treasurey for the Money allowed by Government for such purposes & applied accordingly The Company of Artillery now raising beeing from [**99**] the North part of the Town the Selectmen are further authorized if they shall judge it to be more for the common interest to provide a piece of Land for the said Company whereon to erect a Gun house at the North part of the Town, notwithstanding.

The above Report having been read and considered was accepted by the Town.

The Committee appointed to consider certain resolves of the Legislature of this Commonwealth relative to the disposition & sale of the old State House so called, have attended to the subject and take leave to report as follows.

First. — The Committee are satisfied that the fee of the Land on which the House stands is in the Town of Boston and that they have likewise erected & repaired from time to time nearly one half of the House: from whence it results that the Town ought not to consent to the proposal made by the Legislature to appoint agents to sell the said House and Land thereto belonging & to place one half of the proceeds in the Treasury of the Commonwealth. Secondly The Committee are of opinion that selling the Premises to any individual Person or company will be attended with consequences very injurious to the Town. — The purposes for which it might & [**100**] probably would be occupied would tend greatly to incumber the most frequented Street in the Town which is in its present state not of sufficient width for public accommodation. — the dangers from fire would be very much increased whether the house is appropriated for Shops, Stores, Counting Houses or in short from any use to which the interest of individuals might appropriate it. Beside the increase of real obstructions to the Streets on both sides of the House. — The Committee are apprehensive that the Health of the inhabitants may be exposed by the nuisances which a complete occupation of the House would necessarily imply.

The Committee are of opinion that the Town ought to be the owners of the House & Land in order that it may be appropriated to no uses of Which they shall disapprove.

As the Hon^{bl}. Legislature appear from their resolves to be impressed with an idea that one half of the premises is the property of the Commonwealth and at the same time have consented to refer the claim together with that of the Town & of the Counties of Suffolk and Norfolk to the Judges of the Supreme Judicial Court for a final decision.

The Committee conceive that the Town should agree to the reference proposed so far as that the [**101**] Judges shall finally determine what part of the Premises is the property of the Town.

And with respect to the other proposal of selling whether by public or private Sale that the Town should not agree to the same but that the Representatives of the Town be instructed to represent to the Legislature the inconveniences which would result from a sale to individuals together with the desire of the Town that they will purchase from the State such [part of] their proportion of the same as the Judges shall award, at an appraisement to be made by three impartial Men to be chosen, one by the

Legislature, one by the Representatives of the Town, the third by the two first or by lot between them if they cannot agree.

William Eustis P. Order.

The aforegoing Report having been read and considered was accepted by the Town.

Adjourned to Wednesday December 5th. 10. OClock A :M.

Met according to Adjournment.

The Committee appointed to consider and Report on the Article of the Warrant relative to applying to the General Court for Restriction on the Aqueduct Corporation.

Report

[**102.**] That by the Act passed the 27. Feby. 1795. The Associates in the above Corporation are invested with full Powers to open the Ground in any part of the Streets & high ways in the Towns of Roxbury and Boston & at any time for the purpose of sinking or repairing such Aqueduct, without any control Assent or Restriction from the Selectmen or Surveyors of the High ways of either of those Towns. —

These unqualified powers have been productive of some Complaint already and may lead to consequential injury by subjecting the Town to litigations with the Aqueduct Proprietors or saddling the Inhabitants with the expence of extra repairs of their Streets.

Your Committee therefore propose the Town instruct their Representatives in the General Court to obtain an additional one in amendment of the same to the following effect Viz.

1st. That no pavement shall be taken up previous to the first Day of April nor after the first Day of October in any year.

2d. That the Selectmen or the Persons whom they shall appoint shall determine in what part of any Street the pavement shall be removed for the purpose of sinking the pipes of the Aqueduct and to what extent until the repair is completed.

3d. That the Selectmen or Surveyors of Highways [**103**] be impowered to direct the repavement so as to have the same substantially & effectually done.

These Restrictions appear reasonable because when the Town on the 7th. Feby. 1795 assented to the proprietors being incorporated it was with this express proviso. "That the Corporation should be holden to put the Streets which should be opened in as good repair as they were previous thereto. *and that such other*

guards & Restrictions should be inserted in the Act as should effectually secure the Town from injury. —

Wm. Tudor P. Order.

The aforegoing Report having been read and considered was accepted by the Town.

The Committee relative to Lamps Report That it will not be expedient to dispense with the lighting the Lamps & in obedience to a subsequent Order of the Town they have advertized for proposals but no person has appeared to undertake it.

John Codman P. Order.

The aforegoing Report having been read was accepted — also Voted, that the Selectmen be requested to light the Lamps in the best manner they are able.

Voted, that the Representatives of the Town be requested to use their endeavor to procure an Act or Law for empowering the Governor with the [**104**] advice of the Council to issue an Order for the removal of any Person from one prison to another or from a Goal to a place of safe custody where such Person shall be confined by order of Law & be labouring under a contagious discease in such a manner as that his continuance in Goal may justly be considered as dangerous to others.

The Committee to whom was referred the Petition of William Powell Esq. & others "for cleansing some of the Docks & filling up others & to remove as far as possible all Nuisances that may arise particularly from damaged Goods, Provisions & Hides being stored in Town & to raise Money to defray the expence thereof" — have attended their Duty in that respect and beg leave to Report.

That the Selectmen be requested to take measures for cleansing the Town Dock, Ivers Dock, Olivers Dock & a Dock between the Long Wharf & Spears Wharf in a manner as economical as possible, and that the Selectmen be requested to have the Dock called Olivers Dock filled up as soon as may be in such Manner as shall be for the safety and interest of the Town for the distance of about 150 feet from the head.

That the Town direct its Representatives to make application to the General Court, at its [**105**] next Sessions for an act to authorize the Inhabitants and Freeholders of the respective Wards in the Town qualified to Vote for Town Officers to meet annually in the Month of March or April at such time and in such places as may be duly appointed within their respective Wards, to choose one able & discreet Person an Inhabitant of the Ward for which he shall be elected to be a Member of a *Board of*

Health which shall consist of a member from each Ward to be chosen by Ballot, & not otherwise: Which Board when so chosen shall choose a President & Secretary, whose duty it shall be annually in the Month of March or April to publish a notification in two at least of the News Papers printed in the Town of Boston, mentioning time and place within each Ward respectively seven days at least before the time appointed for such Meeting for the Inhabitants of the respective Wards to Assemble for the purpose aforesaid. And the Members of the Board of Health for the Year preceeding shall preside each in his Ward respectively at said Meeting untill a Clerk shall be chosen by the Ward & no longer, which choice shall be by Ballot. The Clerk shall then call for the Votes receive, & count, the same in open Meeting & certify the number to the President of the existing Board of health within 24 Hours of said Meeting under penalty of Ten dollars to be recovered by action of debt to be brought by said President for the use of the Town [**106**] in any Court of competent Jurisdiction. And in case of the neglect death or refusal of the Member of the Board of Health to preside at said Meeting the Ward may appoint a Committee to receive the Votes for a Clerk. And on return of the Members chosen for each Ward the President of the Board shall notify them to meet at a certain time & place within seven days at least after such return. At which time the Board of Health for the Year ensuing shall be formed. —

The Duty of the Board of Health shall be to examine into all Nuisances & other causes injurious to the health of the Inhabitants whether the same shall be caused by stagnant Waters, drains, common sewers, slaughter Houses, Tan Yards, Fish houses, Docks. Necessaries, putrid animal or vegetable substances or any other cause of whatever kind, which may be injurious to the Health of the Inhabitants as aforesaid, with power to search all houses, stores, cellars, ships & vessells where they may have reason to suspect any of the causes aforesaid to exist. And if they shall meet with resistance in the execution of the search, or the refusal to remove such Nuisances, upon application to any Justice of the Peace within the Town, he shall grant a Warrant directed to the Sheriff of the County of Suffolk, his Deputy or any Constable of the Town of Boston commanding him in presence of any two of said Board of health, to cause such nuisance to be removed & to levy the expence of said removal on the occupier [**107**] or proprietor of the House Store, Cellar or Land in which such nuisance existed together with a fine of twenty dollars for such refusal or resistance: said fine to be paid over to the Town Treasurer for the use of the Town, And the said Board shall have authority to appoint Scavengers & such other Officers to assist them in the execution of their Office as they shall judge necessary for payment of whom & all necessary expences which may arise in the execution of their, the said Board shall be authorized to draw on the Town

Treasurer, & the Accompts of said Board shall be examined by a Committee of the Town Annually chosen for that purpose who shall report the state of them to the Town accordingly.

That application be made to the General Court for a Law to compel a seasonable repacking of salted meats & pickled Fish. To prevent the bringing into town of tainted meats and fish. & for empowering the Board of Health to have the Law carried into full execution. Also for preventing injuries ariving from Hides & other putrid substances which may be brought in Town.

That any Person that shall throw into any of the Docks in the Town any putrid Meat Fish or any other putrid or offensive substance, shall forfeit & pay for each offence, a sum not less than one Dollar nor more than ten dollars at the discretion of the [**108**] Court which may have cognisance of such offence All forfitures & penalties arising from this Act to accrue to the use of the Town & to be prosecuted in such Court or Courts & in such form, as by the General Court may be directed & authorized.

And it shall be the duty of the Board of health to oversee & enforce the due execution of the foregoing Laws & prosecute all Offenders, & for all penalties & forfeitures which may accrue under the same.

They further recommend that all Masters of Vessells arriving shall be prohibited under a sufficient penalty for each offence from depositing on the Wharfes the filth or sweepings of their Vessells holds or throwing the same into any of the Docks of the Town. —

William Powell P. Order

The foregoing Report having been considered & amended in Meeting the Question was put — Viz. — Whether the same be accepted — Passed in the affirmative. —

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

1799.

[**109.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 11th. Day of March Anno Domini 1799. 9. OClock. Forenoon.

Prayer was made by Revd. Dr. West.

Warrant for calling Meeting - - read.

Sundry Laws to be read at this Meeting were accordingly read.

Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq. was chosen Moderator by a Hand Vote.

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Town Clerk and the same having been brought in & counted it appeared that

William Cooper

was chosen Town Clerk for the Year ensuing & an Oath of Office was administered by Mr. Justice Sherburn.

[**110.**] The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for nine Selectmen & upon sorting them it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen viz.

Charles Bulfinch
David Tilden
Russell Sturgis
Joseph Howard
Ebenezer Hancock Esq.
William Porter
William Sherburne Esq.
Joseph May Esq.
Samuel Cobb

The Votes being brought in for five Assessors and counted, it appeared that only four were chosen - - - - Viz.

John R. Sigorney
Caleb Blanchard
Ebenezer Sever Esq.
John Hurd Esq.

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw & bring in their Votes for 12 Overseers of the Poor & upon sorting them it appeared that

Edward Procter Esq.
[**111.**] John Sweetser Esq.
Johathan L. Austin Esq.
Mr. Edward Edes
Henry Hill Esq.
William Smith Esq.
William Phillips Esq.
Stephen Gorham Esq.
Mr. Oliver Brewster
Arnold Wells Junr. Esq.
Dr. Redford Webster
Mr. Thomas Perkins

were chosen Overseers of the Poor for the Year ensuing.

Adjourned to 3. O. Clock P:M. —

3. O. Clock P.M. Met according to Adjournment

On Motion Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be & hereby are given unto Thomas Edwards Esq. William Little Esq. & Mr. Jonathan Harris & Mr. John Tileston for their good & faithful services as Selectmen a number of Years past.

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for 24. Fire Wards, when it appeared that. —

John Winthrop Esq.
Thomas Mellvile
[112.] Jabez Hatch
Joseph Russell
Samuel Parkman Esq.
Mr. Edward Edes
Amasa Davis Esq.
Russell Sturgis
Henry Jackson
William Scollay
Joseph May Esq.
Capt. Robert Gardner
John May Esq.
Mr. William Brown
John Winslow Esq.
Nathaniel Fellows
Samuel Bradford Esq.
Mr. Joseph Head
Thomas H. Perkins Esq.
Joseph Howard
Benjamin Joy
Stephen Codman
Andrew Cunningham Esq.
Mr. John Bray

were chosen Fire Wards for the Year ensuing.

The motion in the Forenoon of a Vote of thanks to Mr. Austin with the other Selectmen did not obtain, a motion being made this afternoon for a [113] reconsideration of the former vote and that he have the thanks of the Town for his good & faithful services as a Selectman and the question being accordingly put Passed in the affirmative.

Voted that in addition to the Selectmen twelve Persons shall now be chosen as a school Committee and the votes being brought in & assorted it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen viz.

Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq
Rev^{d}. Samuel West D.D.
Dr. Thomas Welsh
Rev^{d}. Samuel Stillman

Dr. Aaron Dexter
Mr. William Smith
Dr. William Spooner
Mr. Arnold Welles Junr.
Edward Gray Esq.
David Green Esq.
Rev^{d}. J T Kirkland
Rufus G Amory Esq.

Voted that the above named Gentlemen who conjunctly with the Selectmen are termed the School Committee be and hereby are directed to carry the new system of Education which has been adopted by the Town into operation, and said Committee are also authorized and empowered conjunctly to [**114**] manage and regulate the Officers and government of the School and in future to exercise all the Powers relating to the Schools and Schoolmasters which the Selectmen or such committees are authorized by the Laws of this Commonwealth or the Vote of the Town to exercise any of the former votes of the Town notwithstanding.

Mr. Samuel Clap
was chosen Town Treasurer for the year ensuing.

Mr. Benjamin Hammatt Junr.
was chosen an Assessor for the year ensuing.

Votes for a Treasurer for the County of Suffolk, brought in and counted by the moderator and Town Clerk when it appeared that the whole number was 265 — of which 248 were for Ebenezer Sever Esq. 5 for Charles Bulfinch Esq. 4 for Mr. Samuel Clap, 4 for Mr. Benjamin Hammatt Jun. 3 for Mr. Thomas Hichbourn 1 for Giles Harris Esq. all discreet, suitable Persons, being Freeholders and Residents in said County.

Voted that the assessors be and hereby are directed to sit for such statements of Taxes as they shall judge reasonable two days in such weeks after the delivery of the Tax books to the Collectors for the space of six weeks and no longer. saving they be allowed to sit the last Week in February (Lords days excepted) for the [**115**] abatement of the Taxes of such persons as had not the opportunity of applying in the above limited time by reason of their being out of this Commonwealth or any other unavoidable hindrance and that the assessors determine on the said two days which is to be noted on the tax bill to be delivered the Inhabitants.

Voted That five per cent be and hereby are allowed to the Collectors of Taxes for the year ensuing for all such sums of money and public securities as they shall collect and pay in to the several Treasurers of the sums committed to them to collect also

that such Collectors shall give bond with sufficient Sureties to the satisfaction of the Selectmen for the faithful discharge of their duty in said office and complying with this vote and that they will not receive any premium or gratuity for discounting any orders notes or receipts from the Treasurer of this State, or the Treasurer of this Town.

The votes being brought in for four Collectors of Taxes it appeared that

Messrs. Benjamin Henderson
Thomas Bailey
James Thompson
Benjamin Jepson

were chosen Collectors of Taxes for the year ensuing.

Adjourned till Tomorrow 10 °Clock Forenoon

[**116.**] Tuesday 10 °Clock Forenoon, met according to adjournment.

Messrs. Thomas Bradlee
David Hollis
Matthew Loring
Thomas Sullivan

were chosen Sealers of Leather for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Benjamin White
Moses Ayres
Daniel Ingersol
William Darricott

were chosen Fence viewers for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Edward Jones
George Hamlin
Abijah Wheelock

were chosen Hogreeves for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Edward Jones
George Hamlin
Abijah Wheelock

were chosen Haywards for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Jeffry Richardson
Isaac P. Davis

were chosen Surveyors of Hemp for the year ensuing.

Edward Tuckerman Esq.
Mr. Edward Edes

were chosen Surveyors of Wheat for the year ensuing.

[**117.**] Messrs. Joshua Weatherley
John Wells

were chosen assay masters for the year ensuing.

The Selectmen
were chosen Surveyors of the high ways for the ensuing year.

Mr. Abraham Adams
was chosen Informer of deer for the ensuing year.

Voted, That Herman Brimmer Esq.
Joseph Russell Esq.
Samuel Brown Esq.
be and hereby are appointed a Committee to audit the accounts of the Town Treasurer and also the accounts of the Selectmen Overseers of the Poor and Board of Health and said Committee are also directed to report the sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present year.

Voted that the Selectmen be desired to appoint such able persons for measures of wood & bark brought into Town for sale according to a late law of this Commonwealth and that they follow the directions of the Law therein.

Messrs. Roger Bartlett
Joseph Doble
Jonathan Cushing
were chosen Cullers of dry fish for the year ensuing.

[118.] Messrs. Joseph Loring
Thomas Barber
George Singleton
Edward Burt
Thomas Foster
John Bray
Henry Purkitt
Jonathan Cushing
James Barry
Hezekiah Hutson
Philip Hichbourne
Timothy Pease
Job Wheelwright Junr.
William Fenno
were chosen Cullers of Boards and Staves for the year ensuing.

Mr. Edward Rumley
was chosen an Inspector of stone lime for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Shubael Hewes
Thomas Stevenson
Amos Lewis
Jonah Holbrook
Samuel White
Enoch May

Abraham Tuckerman
Noah Butts
John French
Samuel Gridley
Andrew Townsend
William Low
were chosen Constables for the year ensuing.

[**119.**] The Committee relative to filling up Olivers Dock reported,

That agreeable to a vote of the Town at their last meeting they have attended to their request relating to filling up Olivers Dock so called and that in order to comply with the wishes of the Town in this respect as far as it was in their power they had entered into the annexed agreement with the Proprietors of Woodwards Wharfe so called — that the Town will observe however that it is made subject to their control — the reasons of the agreement appear in the agreement itself

Thomas Edwards
P. Order.

The aforegoing Report having been read & considered it was

Voted that the same be accepted and that the Selectmen be requested to act thereon as they may judge proper.

Votes for 12 Surveyors of Boards and Shingles brought in when it appeared that

Messrs. Joshua Bentley
Benjamin White
Benjamin Page
James Blake
John Cogswell
Edmund Ranger
William Clouston
William Darricott
Nathaniel Tidmarsh
William Ellison
Thomas Blake
John Stutson were chosen.

[**120.**] The Representation of the Overseers of the Poor as to the state of the almshouse and workhouse was read several times whereupon

Voted that William Powell Esq.
General Donaldson
Herman Brimmer
William Eustis Esq.
Colonel Joseph May

be a committee to take this report into consideration and any paper relative thereto, that they confer with the overseer, of the poor and the agents for building the new almshouse and workhouse, to enquire into the state of their funds and to devise ways & means for procuring the monies yet wanting for erecting the necessary buildings and that they report thereon at the adjournment and that the Inhabitants be informed in the public prints of this adjournment and the special occasion thereof.

On motion Voted that the consideration of all money matters be referred over to May meeting.

Voted that this meeting be adjourned to Wednesday the 27 March inst. 10 °Clock forenoon, then to meet in this place.— and the meeting was accordingly adjourned.

Wednesday the 27 March 10 °Clock forenoon met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed by the Town at their meeting on the eleventh March instant to take in to consideration the representation of the Overseers of [121] the Poor to confer with said overseers and with the Agents of the Town for building the new almshouse and workhouse to enqire into the state of the funds and to devise ways and means for procuring the monies to erect the necessary buildings &c — have to the best of their abilities endeavour'd to comply with the injunctions of the Town and beg leave to report as follows

That the condition of the buildings at present improved as an almshouse and as a Workhouse is such that in the opinion of the Committee it is absolutely necessary that one new building capable of accommodating all the persons at present supported by the Town, be immediately undertaken and completed with all convenient speed.

That the expence of erecting such a building on the land already procured for that purpose, including a sea wall and other arrangements of the ground will cost the Town in the opinion of the agents between Forty and fifty thousand dollars: and the Committee are inform'd that it will require eighteen months before the new building can be inhabited. That the Agents have in funded stock for the above mentioned purpose to the value (in round numbers) of sixteen thousand Dollars — in Lumber seven thousand dollars, and Cash in the hands of the Town-Treasurer four thousand dollars making in the whole the sum of Twenty seven thousand dollars, leaving a deficiency of about Twenty thousand dollars to be provided for by the Town

That there is now due to the Town about Twenty three thousand dollars for the sales of the Lands on which [122] the almshouse and workhouse now stands, but this sum is not to be paid until the town shall deliver possession of these lands and buildings, which can not be done until the intended building shall be ready

to receive the inhabitants of those that are to be delivered up to the purchasers — It will then be necessary to provide for a deficiency of about Twenty thousand dollars to complete the intended new building before the town can realize the sum now outstanding for the sales of the old almshouse and workhouse. And to provide for this deficiency the Committee have taken into view all the resources of the Town within their knowledge. The lands now belonging to the town within the Corporation are so situated that to sell them for this purpose under existing circumstances would be in the Opinion of the Committee to make an unwarrantable sacrifice. There is also a Township of lands in the eastern parts of this Commonwealth belonging to the town of Boston but there are so few purchasers of unimproved lands at this time the Committee think it would bring but a very small part of the sum required and if now sold it must be done to great disadvantage. The Committee have also contemplated the subject of an immediate Tax on the Town to be expressly appropriated to this object — but considering the magnitude of the existing taxes, and the length of time requisite to bring it into operation they have not thought it expedient to recommend this mode of procuring the necessary supply — Thus having taken all these resources into view, and having abandoned them either as inexpedient, wasteful, or insufficient they have turned their attention to the only remaining source [**123**] from whence to draw the deficient sum necessary to complete the building contemplated. — that is to procure it on loan on the credit of the Town until the intended new building shall be finished, and then to discharge the loan by the money which will be receivable for the sale of the old almshouse and workhouse when they shall be evacuated and delivered up to the purchasers. It is the opinion of the Committee that the money may be obtained on the Credit of the Town at the usual rate of interest and they recommend that the Treasurer be authorized to borrow from time to time such sums of money as the agents may deem necessary for completing the buildings intended not exceeding the sum of Twenty thousand dollars. The Agents will not want for a considerable time any additional supplies to what they have already at command and if the Treasurer shall borrow only as shall be wanted, the growing interest will only apply to the sums last expended and therefore will not amount to any considerable sum. These have been the subjects considered by the Committee and they do therefore recommend that the Agents be authorized to proceed with all convenient expedition to erect a building competent to the object before mentioned on a plan to be approved by the Overseers of the poor; that they employ all the resources now in hand arising from the sales of the Town lands for that purpose — and that the Treasurer be authorized and directed to borrow on the Credit of the Town such further sums as shall be necessary to complete the said building not exceeding Twenty thousand dollars. — In the Representation of the Overseers of the Poor referred to the Committee, there is one other subject on which

they are required to report, that is a [**124**] Recommendation of the Overseers that the Town make a compensation to Capt Benjamin Hammatt for the injury done his property and furniture at the late fire of the workhouse and considering that he is an ancient, approved and faithful servant of the Town and has served the Town with fidelity for a trifling salary for a great number of years. The Committee having considered this subject recommend that the Town make him an allowance of two hundred dollars as an indemnity for his losses —

William Donnison
P. Order.

The aforegoing report having been several times read and debated the question was put viz — Whether the same shall be accepted passed by a very great majority in the affirmative — as also that the sum of Two hundred dollars be and hereby is allowed to Capt. Benjamin Hammatt for loss sustained in the late fire at the Work-house as recommended in the above report

Voted, that all matters unfinished be referred over to May Meeting

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given to the Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq. the Moderator for his good services in the dispatch given the business of this meeting —

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[**125.**] At a Meeting of the male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of Twenty one years of age and upwards qualified as the Constitution prescribes and legally warned in public Town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the first day of April Anno Domini 1799. — at 9 oClock A. M. —

Prayer by Rev^{d}. Doct. Lathrop.

Warrant for calling meeting - - Read.

Paragraph of the Constitution or Frame of Government relative to the choice of Governor, L^{t}. Governor and Senators - - Read

It was then declared by the Selectmen that no votes would be received but such as were unfolded and that they purpose the Poll should be closed at 2 oClock the Votes to be received (but such as were unfolded) at the Table and the bells to begin ringing at One oClock.

Persons, voted for as Governor with the number of votes for each Person Viz.

	Votes
His Excellency Increase Sumner	1904
Honble William Heath Esq.	546
Elbridge Gerry Esq.	1
Peter R Dalton Esq.	1

Persons voted for as L^{t}. Governor. with the number of votes for each Person Viz^{t}.

His Honor Moses Gill Esq.	2446
Honble Samuel Phillips Esq.	1
Honble George Cabbot	1
Mr. John Parker	1
Mr. Thomas Stetson	1

[**126**] Persons, voted for as Senators for the County of Suffolk with the number of votes for each Person.

	Votes,
Honble Thomas Dawes Esq.	2187
Honble Oliver Wendall Esq.	2294
Honble. John C. Jones	2233
Jonathan Mason Esq.	1888
Honble. James Bowdoin Esq	529
Honble. Benjamin Austin Jun Esq.	176
William Eustis Esq.	246
Charles Jarvis Esq.	148
Honble William Heath Esq.	1
Arnold Welles Esq.	2
John Duggan	4
John Magner	2
John Codman Esq	4
David Green Esq	1
Samuel Cooper Esq	1
Samuel Brown Esq	1
Benjamin Russell Esq	1
Jonathan Loring Austin Esq.	1
Joseph Blake Esq	1
Thomas Lewis, Senior	1
Alexander Young	1
Thomas Minns	1
Amos Hovey	1

Attested copies of the Persons voted for as Governor Lieut. Governor and Senators for the County of Suffolk were committed by the Town Clerk to the Secretary of the Commonwealth, and the enclosures sealed up in town meeting superscribed as follows Viz^{t}.

For John Avery Esq.
Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

[**127.**] The number of Votes of the Town of Boston for a

Governor and Lieut Governor & four Senators for the County of Suffolk certified within and sealed up in Town meeting

Then the Meeting was Dissolved

At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public Town meeting assembled at Fanuiel Hall on Tuesday the fourteenth day of May AD 1799. 10 °Clock AM.

Prayer was made by Rev^{d}. Doct Stillman

Warrant for calling a meeting - - Read

That part of the Constitution or Frame of Government which relates to the choice of Representatives — Read; also the law relative to mourning.*

The Town having determined by a vote to choose seven Representatives to represent them in the General Court of Massachusetts to be held in the State house in Boston on the last Wednesday of May current agreeable to the Constitution or Frame of government for Massachusetts the Inhabitants were directed by the Selectmen to withdraw and bring in their votes for seven Representatives and then it was declared by the Selectmen that no votes would be received but such as are unfolded, and that they purpose the Poll shall be closed at ½ past one °Clock [**128**] the assessors to attend at the delivery of votes and the bell to begin tolling at 1 °Clock and to continue tolling until the time of half an hour expire

The votes being brought in for seven Representatives the number of the same were found to be 1403 and upon assorting them it appeared that the following seven Gentlemen had obtained a majority of votes Viz^{t}.

	Votes
Joseph Russell Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	1332
William Smith Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	1323
John Lowell Jun. Esq. - - - - - - - - - -	1098
Mr. Samuel Cobb - - - - - - - - - - - -	1310
Samuel Parkman Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	1132
Joseph Hall Esq. - - - - - - - - - - - -	1083
Nathan Frazer Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	1064

The votes given for such as did not obtain

	Votes
William Eustis Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	289
James Bowdoin Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	303

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* This relates to a By-Law passed in 1785, it being deemed necessary, owing to the excessive expenditure at funerals, to regulate the outward forms of mourning to the most simple observance, such as a piece of black crape upon the arm for men, and a black hat or bonnet, ribbons or fan for the women.

Charles Jarvis Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	19
John Winthrop Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	152
William Tudor Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	189
Honble Benjamin Austin Jun. Esq. - - - - - -	28
Russell Sturgis Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	25
Samuel Brown Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	16
Josiah Quincy Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	12
Nat^{l}. Fellows Esq. - - - - - - - - - - - -	11

The other votes given in were scattering and not entered in this book but are named in the paper filed with the rough minutes.

The choice of Representatives being over and declared by the Selectmen. The Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq. was chosen Moderator of this meeting in order that the Town [**129**] might proceed in transacting the other business mentioned in the warrant.

Adjourned to 4 °clock P. M.

At three °clock PM met according to adjournment.

Mr. Low was on motion excused serving as Constable —

A schedule of the Town expences was reported and on motion, Voted that the same be printed & delivered to the Inhabitants —

The committee appointed to audit the Town Treasurers accounts have attended that service and report that they find the accounts well vouched and rightly cast — that there was due to the Town the 30th. April last, by the Books (exclusive of the money appropriated for the building a new almshouse of $4560.$\frac{78}{100}$)

		$35096 .. 59 .. 3
From which must be deducted Viz^{t}.		
Towns powder - -	1041 . 94 . 5	
Interest Acc^{o} - -	3302 . 70 . 1	
suppose abatem^{t}. on '98 Tax	4000 . ,, ,,	8344 .. 64 .. 6
		$26751 .. 94 .. 7

There is due from the Collectors Viz.

Benjamin Henderson -	10520 . 58	
Thomas Bailey - - -	14187 . 98	
James Thompson - -	14477 .. 9	
Benjamin Jepson - -	11672 .. 68	
		$50,858 .. 33

On the other side is an estimate for the necessary expences of the current year, and your Commissioners are of opinion that a Tax of 60.000 dollars ought to be laid to defray the same

They annex the Treasurers general accounts and a trial Balance of his books

all which is submitted

Herman Brimmer
Joseph Russell Junr. } Com^{rs}.
Samuel Brown

[**130.**] The aforegoing Report having been read & considered the same was accepted, whereupon

Voted, That the sum of Sixty thousand dollars be raised by a tax to be assessed on the Polls and estates of the Inhabitants of the Town to defray the expences of the current year.

Voted, that the sum of Six hundred sixty six dollars be allowed and paid unto Samuel Clap for his services as Town Treasurer the present year, the same to be paid him quarterly as it shall become due, and to commence first March last. —

Voted, that the sum of Six hundred and sixty six dollars be allowed and paid unto William Cooper for his services as Town Clerk the present year, the same to be paid him quarterly as it shall become due and to commence from 1st. March last.

Voted, that the sum of Four hundred thirty three dollars be allowed to each of the assessors for their respective services the present year, the same to be paid them quarterly as it shall become due and to commence the first of March last. —

The choice of Officers wanted referred to the adjournment.

The application of Josiah Knapp for liberty to fill up the Dock between his land and that of Mr. Healey etc. read, whereupon

Voted that the Prayer of Mr. Knapp be so far granted that the Selectmen be a Committee to settle with him on the principle to secure the Town from any encroachment from the Petitioner, and to secure the rights of the Town. —

[**131.**] Another petition from Josiah Knapp to purchase a lot of land lying on Beach Street, belonging to the Town read, whereupon,

Voted that the Selectmen be and hereby [are] authorized and empowered to dispose of said piece of Land in the manner printed out by a By Law of this Town

The article in warrant relative to securing the Towns land on the neck, read, and the Selectmen appointed a Committee to consider the same and report thereon at the adjournment.

The application of several of the Inhabitants relative to a supply of monies for the Board of health, read, whereupon,

Voted, that the Town Treasurer be and hereby is authorized and empowered to borrow for the use of the Board of Health a sum not exceeding Two thousand dollars

The Articles in the Warrant viz that such further By Laws be made as shall appear necessary to improve the Police of the Town, read, whereupon

Voted, that Mr. Bourne
Judge Sullivan
Mr. Sherburne
Capt. Prince
Mr. Lowell Junr.
be a Committee to Report such By Laws as may be necessary for said purpose.

The article in the warrant relative to the increase of Negroes from West Indies &c. read, whereupon Voted, that the aforegoing Committee on the By-laws be a Committee to consider this article and report thereon.

The prayer of Judge Wendell for an exchange of land with the Town on Fort hill read — whereupon

[**132.**] Voted, that the Selectmen be a Committee to consider this matter and to report their opinion thereon

The application of Auctioneers for leave to expose their merchandize in the Streets — read and debated — and leave given for withdrawing their petition

Article in the warrant relative to the expediency of having a cellar under Faneuil Hall Market, read — whereupon voted that this matter be left to the Selectmen, they to proceed therein as shall be judged to be for the Interest of the Town

The article in Warrant relative to Major Wilds request for a Gunhouse — to be considered at the adjournment. —

Adjourned to Friday 24th. inst. 10 oClock Forenoon.

Friday the 24th. May 10 oClock Forenoon met according to adjournment.

The Committee to whom was referred the consideration of what measures might be taken relative to the negroes in the Town of Boston have attended that service and beg leave to report as their opinion that the Commonwealth is deeply interested in the

great influx of Negroes and the other people of colour both from the West Indies & the Southern States. That your Committee have not had sufficient time to mature the subject so as to form a digested Plan to remedy the mischief. They however recommend to the town to appoint a Committee to apply to the General Court at their next session for their interposition and aid in the Premises, all which is humbly submitted.

Shearjasheb Bourne

[**133.**] The aforegoing Report having been read the Town accepted of the same and appointed Shearjasheb Bourne, Judge Sullivan, William Sherburne Esq., Capt. Prince & John Lowell Jun. Esq the Committee for the purposes mentioned in said report

The Inhabitants having brought in their votes as directed by the Selectmen for one Selectman in the room of Joseph May Esq. who had resigned and the same having been counted it appeared that

Mr. John Tileston

was chosen having 105 votes out of 199.

A memorial of the assessors was read and on motion, Voted that the sum of One hundred dollars be allowed to each of the assessors the present year on account of the rise of Provisions, as has been for several years past — the vote of the 14th. instant notwithstanding.

Article in warrant relative to a Gun house taken up — whereupon, Voted that the Selectmen be directed to accommodate Mr. Wilds Company of Artillery with sufficient ground at the easterly end of the South Burying place on the common for the purpose of erecting a gun house thereon.

Votes brought in for one Constable, when it appeared that Capt. Joseph Ingraham was chosen

The Selectmen to whom was referred the request of Oliver Wendell Esq for exchange of land on Fort hill — reported, that Oliver Wendell Esq being absent they conversed with his attorney and with the abuttors on the land proposed to be exchanged, and are of opinion that an exchange would be for the advantage of the Town provided suitable conditions could be agreed on

Charles Bulfinch
Chairman, per order.

[**134.**] The aforegoing report having been read the same was accepted by the Town and the Selectmen authorized & empowered to settle and complete the business with Mr. Wendell

The Committee on the subject of By-laws reported the form of

a law to regulate the paving of the streets and to remove Incumbrances on the same, which though read and accepted by the Town the Court of sessions thought they could not legally take up the matter, and it has since been made a law of this Commonwealth — also a By-Law for the regulating of trucks carts and other carriages which has been approved of by the Court of Sessions and is as follows Viz^t. For the regulation of Trucks Carts and other carriages in the Streets of Boston.

That the selectmen be authorized within one month after the publication of this By-law and from time to time afterwards as occasion may require to appoint such and so many stands for all kinds of Carts Trucks and Wheelbarrows as to them shall appear requisite, to some one or other of which stands all drivers of such Carts and Trucks shall repair with their carriages and horses when unemployed in the day, And any driver or owner of such Cart Truck or Wheelbarrow who shall stand in any other place than such as shall be directed by the Selectmen shall forfeit and pay for every offence One dollar

Each and every driver or owner of a cart or truck shall place his horses and cart or trucks length-ways close to the Posts or abutting stone of the footwalk of the Street in which he shall stand under the penalty of One dollar for every neglect.

And no more than one range of Carts or Trucks shall stand in Streets not more than 30 feet wide and not more than one range on each side in streets which are of a greater width than 30 feet — and in squares and other large & open [**135**] places they shall be arranged by order and conform to the directions of the Selectmen or the surveyors of high ways, and every driver neglecting to conform to this law shall forfeit and pay one dollar for every offence.

If any Waggoner, Carter, Truckman or other Driver of any Carriage, Sled or Sleigh for pleasure or burthen shall stop or place any such carriage Sled or Sleigh in any such manner as to cross the street or foot path or prevent other carriages or foot passengers from passing in the direction of such street and shall not in five minutes after the request of any passenger cause the same to be removed or shall be absent therefrom so that such request cannot be made, every person so offending shall forfeit and pay for every offence One dollar.

All which fines and forfeitures upon conviction before any Court proper to try the same shall be one moiety to and for the use of the Poor of the Town of Boston and the other moiety to him or them who shall inform or prosecute for the same.

On motion voted that all matters which shall remain unfinished be referred to the next general meeting that shall be called.

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to the Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq Moderator for his good services in the dispatch given the business of the meeting.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[**136**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 4th. day of July A D 1799.

Warrant for calling the meeting — Read.

William Cooper chosen Moderator.

The Committee appointed last year to make choice of a Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the Anniversary of Independence. Reported, that they had made choice of John Lowell Jun Esq who has accepted the appointment —

On motion adjourned to Old South Church when agreeable to Information of the Chairman of the selectmen

AN ORATION

to commemorate the Independence of the United States was delivered by John Lowell Jun Esq at the Old South Church.

On motion voted that the Selectmen be a Committee to wait on John Lowell Jun Esq and in the name of the Town to thank him for the spirited and elegant Oration this day delivered by him at the request of the Town, upon the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America in which according to the institution of the Town he considered the feelings manners and principles which led to that great National event, and to request of him a Copy thereof for the press.

[**137**] On motion, Voted, that the Gentlemen Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to some one able and learned Gentlemen to deliver an Oration on the fourth of July, A D, 1800, that day being the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America; wherein the Orator is to consider the feelings manners and principles which led to this great national event, as well as the important and happy effects whether general or domestic which have already or will forever flow from that conspicuous Epoch

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

At a meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public Town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday, the Twenty fifth day of September, Anno Domini 1799. 10 °Clock A M—

Warrant for calling a meeting - - Read.

General Elliot, chosen Moderator by a hand vote, being by his desire excused.

General Winslow chosen Moderator, and being by his desire also excused.

The Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq was chosen Moderator and took the chair accordingly.

The article in the warrant viz. whether any and what measures shall be taken to carry into effect the will of the late Thomas Boylston Esq. — was read

[**138.**] Whereupon, Voted, that
Honble. James Sullivan Esq
Dr. Charles Jarvis (excused)
Honble. Harrison G. Otis Esq
Honble. George R. Minot Esq
John Davis Esq
John Lowell Jun Esq
Honble. Robt T Paine Esq
Honble Judge Dawes
be a Committee to take this matter into consideration and to report on the same at the adjournment.

The article in the warrant relative to a gun house at the bottom of the Common and a petition of a large number of the Inhabitants for reconsidering the Vote of the Town permitting its erection, were read — Voted that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition —

The article in the warrant viz "To consider the Report of the Selectmen with respect to such streets as have been laid out by them, also the expediency of widening several streets and whether the Town will appropriate any money to defray the expence thereof" was read and accepted, also

Voted that the sum of Four thousand dollars be appropriated for the purpose of defraying the charge of widening such streets as the Selectmen may judge proper

The Selectmen appointed to regulate the Jury Boxes according to Law

The article relative to speedy collecting of the Tax for 1798 read — whereupon Voted that the Selectmen be directed to call upon the Collectors and press their exerting themselves for the speedy collection of the Tax of 1798, and that the same be published.

[**139.**] Messrs. Daniel Ingersol Jun
William Andrews
were chosen Surveyors of Boards for the present year

Adjourned to Wednesday the 23d October next 10 °Clock AM

Wednesday Oct 23, 1799. 10 °Clock AM met according to adjournment

The Committee on the will of the late Thomas Boylston, reported as follows viz .

That they have attended to the opinion given thereon by a Council in London as the same is annexed to a copy of the will: and are nevertheless of opinion that the Town of Boston are entitled to the property and as a Corporation may sue for the same.

And that it is expedient for the Town to appoint Agents with power of substitution, giving to them authority to pursue all measures to carry the will into effect.

That the Selectmen have authority to make provision for defraying all expences attending the business

October 21. 1799 } James Sullivan
Chairman

The aforegoing Report having been read and considered — the question was put, viz. Whether said Report shall be accepted— Passed in the affirmative, also

Voted, that the Gentlemen Selectmen be the Agents for carrying said Report into effect —

Voted, that all matters which remain unfinished be referred to the next General Town meeting

Voted, that the thanks of this Town be given to Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq. for his good services as Moderator

Then the meeting was dissolved.

[**140.**] At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public Town

meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday 30th. December AD 1799 — 10 °Clock AM

Warrant for calling the meeting — Read

The Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq. was chosen Moderator.

The article in the warrant viz to consider what measures shall be taken by the Town on occasion of the sorrowful and distressing event of the death of the late Lieut. GEORGE WASHINGTON, in testimony of the high respect and esteem entertained by his fellow Citizens for so illustrious a character, the following votes were passed unanimously viz

Voted that a Committee be appointed consisting of eighteen of which the Selectmen shall form a constituent part to devise and recommend to the Inhabitants such marks of mourning and other expressions of public sensibility on the late afflictive event as to the said Committee shall appear just and appropriate — and that such measures as they shall recommend to the Inhabitants through the medium of the public papers shall be by them immediately adopted.

Voted that said Committee be desired to elect and request one of our fellow Citizens to pronounce an eulogium on the memory of the late GEN^L^. WASHINGTON at such time and place as they shall think proper. —

[**141.**] Voted, that in addition to the Gentlemen the selectmen

The Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq.
Honble. John C. Jones Esq.
Honble. Judge Minot
Josiah Quincy Esq.
Col. Revere
Col. Bradford
Genl. Elliot
Genl. Winslow
Joseph Russell Esq.

be and hereby are appointed the Committee for carrying into effect the aforegoing votes. —

The article in the warrant relative to old State house was read — whereupon

Voted that the Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq., Oliver Wendell Esq., the Senators of this district and the Representatives of the Town of Boston be authorized with full powers to make any contract with the General Court relative to the Old Town house and the land on which it stands, on terms which to them may appear most for the advantage and honor of the Town

Voted, that the thanks of the Town be given to Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq for his good services as moderator of the meeting.

Then the meeting was Dissolved.

1800.

[**142.**] At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the tenth day of March Anno Domini 1800, 9°Clock — Forenoon. Prayer was made by Rev^{d}. Dr. Howard.

Warrant for calling a meeting was read

Sundry laws to be read at this meeting were accordingly read.

Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq. was chosen Moderator by a hand vote.

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their votes for a Town Clerk and the same being brought in and counted it appeared that

William Cooper Esq.

was chosen Town Clerk for the year ensuing; and the oath of office was administered by Mr. Justice Sherburne

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their votes for nine Selectmen and upon assorting them it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen Viz

Charles Bulfinch Esq
David Tilden Esq
Russell Sturgis Esq
Capt. Joseph Howard
Eben^{r}. Hancock
William Porter
William Sherburne Esq.
John Tileston
Ebenezer Oliver

[**143.**] The votes being brought in for Overseers of the Poor as directed, upon assorting them it appeared that

Edward Proctor Esq.
John Sweetser Esq.
Jon^{a}. L. Austin Esq.
Mr. Edward Edes
Henry Hill Esq
William Smith Esq

William Phillips Esq.
M. Oliver Brewster
Arnold Welles Junr Esq
Doct Redford Webster
Thomas Perkins Esq.

were chosen Overseers of the Poor for the year ensuing.

The Inhabitants brought in their votes for 24 Firewards when it appeared that

Thomas Melvill Esq
Edward Edes
Amasa Davis Esq
Samuel Parkman Esq.
Russell Sturgis Esq
Henry Jackson
William Scollay
Joseph May — Esq
Capt. Robert Gardner
John May
William Brown Esq
Nathaniel Fellows Esq
Samuel Bradford Esq
Mr. Joseph Head
Thomas H. Perkins Esq
John Winslow Esq
Capt. Joseph Howard
Benjamin Jay [Joy?]
Stephen Codman Esq
Andrew Cunningham Esq
John Bray
Thomas Dennie Esq
Gen'l Simon Elliot Esq
[144.] Mr. Gorman Parsons

were chosen Fire-wards for the year ensuing.

Voted that the thanks of the Town be given to Mr. Samuel Cobb who has resigned as a selectman, for his good services while in that office — Also to Jabez Hatch Esq. Joseph Russell Esq who have declined serving as firewards for their good services in that Office a number of years past, and to Rev. Doct Stillman and Dr. Spooner who declined serving as a school committee, for their good services a number of years past.

Samuel Clap Esq

was chosen Town Treasurer for the year ensuing.

Votes for a treasurer for the County of Suffolk brought in and counted by the moderator and Town Clerk, when it appeared that the whole number [was] 208 all of which were [for] Ebenezer Sever Esq a suitable person & a freeholder and resident in said County

Voted that in addition to the Selectmen twelve persons shall now be chosen as a school committee and the votes being brought in and assorted it appear'd that the following Gentlemen were chosen — Viz

Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq.
Saml. West DD.
Joseph Eckley DD.
Rev^{d}. Mr. Kirkland
Doct Thomas Welsh
Doct Aaron Dexter
Mr. William Smith
Mr. Arnold Welles Jun
Edward Gray Esq
David Green Esq
Rufus G. Amory Esq
Josiah Quincy Esq.

[**145.**] Voted that the above named Gentlemen who conjunctly with the Selectmen are termed the School Committee be and hereby are directed to carry the new system of Education which has been adopted by the town into operation by said committee [and] are also authorized & impowered conjunctly to manage and regulate the Officers & government of the Schools and in future to exercise all the power relating [to] the Schools and School masters, which the Selectmen or such Committees were authorized by the laws of this Commonwealth or the Votes of the Town to exercise; any former vote of the Town to the contrary notwithstanding.

Voted, that the Assessors be and hereby are directed to set for such abatement of taxes as they shall judge reasonable two days in such weeks, after the delivery of the tax books to the collectors, for the space of six weeks and no longer, saving they be allowed to sit the last week in February, (Lords days excepted) for the abatement of the Taxes of such persons as had not an opportunity of applying in the above limited time by reason of their being out [of] the Commonwealth, or any other unavoidable hindrance, and that the Assessors determine on the said two days, which is to be voted on, the tax bills to be delivered the Inhabitants

The Votes being brought in for assessors & counted and assorted it appeared that Messrs.

John R Sigourney
Caleb Blanchard
Ebenezer Sever Esq
John Hurd Esq
Mr. Benjamin Hammatt Junior

were chosen assessors for the year ensuing

Voted that Five per cent be and hereby are allowed to the Col-

lectors of taxes for the year ensuing for all such sums of money and public Securities as they shall collect & pay in to the several Treasurers of the sums committed to them to collect. also that such Collectors shall give bond with sufficient sureties to the satisfaction of the Selectmen for the faithful discharge of their duty in said office and [**146**] complying with this vote, and that they will not receive any premium or gratuity for discounting any orders & notes on receipts from the Treasurer of this State or the Treasurer of this Town —

The Votes being brought in for four Collectors of Taxes it appeared that

Messrs. Benjamin Henderson
Thomas Bayley
James Thompson
Benjamin Jepson

were chosen Collectors of Taxes for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Shubael Hewes
Thomas Stevenson
Amos Lewis
Jirah Holbrook
Samuel White
Enoch May
Abraham Tuckerman
Noah Butts
John Trench
Samuel Gridley
Andrew Townsend
Joseph Ingraham

were chosen Constables for the year ensuing.

Votes for 12 Surveyors of boards and shingles were brought in, when it appeared that

Messrs. Joshua Bentley
Benjamin White
Benjamin Page
James Blake
John Cogswell
Edmund Ranger
William Clouston
William Darracott
William Ellison
James Robbins
William Andrews
Daniei Ingersoll

were chosen Surveyors of boards & shingles for the year ensuing.

[**147.**] Voted tha Herman Brimmer Esq
Joseph Russell Esq
Samuel Brown Esq

be and hereby are appointed a Committee to audit the accounts of the Town Treasurer and also the accounts of the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor and board of Health, and said Committee are also directed to report the sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present year.

On motion Voted that

Joseph Russell Esq
William Parsons
John C. Jones Esq

be a committee to consider what number of Cullers of staves and hoops shall be chosen for the year ensuing

Adjourned to 3 oClock P. M.

At three oClock P M the Town met according to adjournment.

Messrs. Thomas Bradlee
David Hollis
Nathaniel Loring
Thomas Sullivan

were chosen Sealers of leather for the year ensuing

Messrs. Benjamin White
Moses Ayers
Daniel Ingersol
William Darricot

were chosen Fence viewers for the year ensuing

Messrs. George Hamlin
Barney Connor
William Wheeler

were chosen Hogreeves for the year ensuing

Messrs. George Hamlin
Barney Connor
William Wheeler

were chosen Haywards for the year ensuing

Messrs. Jeffry Richardson
Isaac P. Davis

were chosen Surveyors of Hemp for the year ensuing

[148.] Edward Tuckerman Esq.
Mr. Edward Edes

were chosen Surveyors of wheat for the year ensuing

Messrs. John Wells
William Cooper Hunneman

were chosen Assay Masters for the year ensuing.

The Selectmen
were chosen Surveyors of Highway for the year ensuing

Messrs. Roger Barlett
Jonathan Cushing
Joseph Doble
William Late
were chosen cullers of dry fish for the year ensuing

Mr. Edward Rumley
was chosen Inspector of Stone lime for the year ensuing.

The article in the warrant. viz "To act upon the petition of Nathaniel Patten of Roxbury that the Town would sell or lease to him a spot of ground adjoining the Ropewalk on Boston Neck, and to consider what measures shall be taken to improve the Towns property there," was read: Whereupon Voted that the Gentlemen Selectmen be a committee to take said Petition and the Subject of the Towns lands on the neck into full consideration, and to report at May meeting

The petition of Mr. John Kuhn in behalf of himself and William Kempton that the Town would remit their proportion of the Fine incurred by them for erecting a building contrary to law, in conformity to a resolve of the Honble. Legislature passed for their relief was read and considered — and the question being put viz Whether the prayer of this petition shall be granted passed in the affirmative.

The article in the warrant viz "To consider whether any and what measures shall be taken to endeavour to effect the permanent establishment of a Dock Yard [149] for the continental navy within the limits of the town was read, whereupon Voted that

Messrs. William Parsons
Edmund Hart
John Coffin Jones Esq
Samuel Brown Esq
Henry Jackson Esq
be a committee to consider this article and report thereon at the adjournment of this meeting

The article in the warrant viz Whether the Selectmen shall be empowered to carry into effect a vote of the town passed in 1791 for erecting new stalls in market square to accommodate the persons frequenting the market and to remove the great number of carts and horses from the streets in that neighborhood" read and considered — whereupon Voted that the Gentlemen Selectmen be directed to proceed in this business agreeable to the vote passed in 1791 — and as they shall judge will be most for the interest of the Town

Adjourned to Wednesday the 19th. inst. 10 °Clock AM.

Wednesday March 19, 1800 — 10 °Clock AM met according to adjournment

Rev^d. William Emmerson chosen one of the School committee in the room of Rufus G Amory who has resigned, and to whom a vote of thanks was given for his good services while of that committee

Samuel Adams

chosen into the office of a Hayward, also that of a Hogreeve for the year ensuing.

The Town having voted to choose four cullers of hoops and staves and the votes having been bro^t. in accordingly it appeared that

Messrs. Henry Purkitt
Lemuel Gardner
Thomas Barber
James 'Eunson

were chosen Cullers of hoops and Staves for the year ensuing

[**150.**] The committee appointed to consider whether any and what measures shall be taken to effect the establishment of a national dockyard within the limits of this Town; have attended to the object of their commission and after [having] duly considered the vacant lands in the north part of the town between Winnisimmet Ferry and the lower bridge, on Noddles Island the latter being within the limits of the town are convenient for a public Dock Yard but if the former of these situations is preferred, the Town way must be included within the limits of the yard; but as the United States will have jurisdiction over all places ceded to them the Committee prefer Noddles Island as a place where there will be less danger of a clashing of Jurisdiction and when [where] the people employed in the Dock Yard will be kept more easily under control of the national laws and have less intercourse with the other Inhabitants of the Town therefore the Committee have concluded to report that measures be taken to endeavour to effect the permanent establishment of a dock for the Continental Navy within the limits of this town and further propose that the board of Selectmen with William Parsons Henry Jackson John C Jones and Edmund Hart be authorized & requested to correspond with the Secretary of the Navy on this Subject, and further to take all prudent and reasonable measures that may be necessary to effect the contemplated establishment

William Parsons
Henry Jackson
John C Jones
Edmund Hart

The aforegoing report having been read & amended the question was put viz. Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the affirmative. —

Voted that all matters which shall remain unfinished at this meeting, be referred over to May meeting.

[**151.**] Voted that the thanks of the town be given to the Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq. the moderator of this meeting for his good services in the dispatch given the business which came before them.

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

At a meeting of the male Inhabitants of the town of Boston of twenty-one years of age and upwards, qualified as the Constitution prescribes, and legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the seventh day of April Anno Domini 1800, 9 °Clock A M —

Prayer was made by Rev^d^. Doct Thatcher

Warrant for calling a meeting was - - Read

Paragraph of the Constitution or Frame of Government relative to the choice of Governor L^t^. Governor & Senators - Read

It was then declared by the Selectmen that no Votes would be received but such as were unfolded, and that they propose the poll should be closed at half past One °Clock the votes to be received at the table and the bells to begin ringing at one °Clock, and to continue for half an hour

Persons voted for as Governor, with the number of votes for each person Viz^t^.

	Votes.
His Honor Moses Gill - - - - - - - - - -	8
Honble Elbridge Gerry Esq - - - - - - - -	1555
Honble Caleb Strong Esq - - - - - - - - -	1531
Honble Edward Hutchinson Esq - - - - - - -	2
Honble William Heath Esq - - - - - - - -	1

*Persons voted for as Lt. Governor, with the number of votes for each person, Vizt.

His Honor Moses Gill - - - - - - - - - - -	3,035
Honble Wm. Heath Esq. - - - - - - - - - -	26
Honble Saml Phillips Esq. - - - - - - - - -	9
Honble [Theophilus?] Cushing Esq. - - - - - -	3
Honble Caleb Strong Esq. - - - - - - - - -	5
Honble Fisher Ames Esq. - - - - - - - - -	4
Honble Elbridge Gerry - - - - - - - - - -	2
Honble Edw. H. Robbins Esq. - - - - - - -	1
Honble James Bowdoin - - - - - - - - - -	1

*This list of candidates and voters was omitted from these records, and has been taken from the return filed in the Archives Department of the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

[**152.**] Persons voted for as Senators with the number of votes for each person Viz^{t}.

	Votes
Honble Thomas Dawes Esq	3000
Honble Oliver Wendell Esq	3064
Honble John C Jones Esq	3067
William Eustis Esq	1553
Honble Jonathan Mason	1534
Charles Jarvis Esq	20
Honble James Bowdoin Esq	12
John Codman Esq	41
Honble Benjamin Austin Jun Esq	19
William Smith Esq	7
Honble Theophilus Cushing Esq	3
Samuel Brown Esq	1
George Blake Esq	2

Attested copies of the persons voted for as Governor Lt Governor and Senators for the County of Suffolk were committed by the Town Clerk to the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the inclosures sealed up in Town meeting subscribed as follows Viz^{t}

For John Avery Esq.
Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The number of votes for the Town of Boston, for a Governor Lt Governor, and four Senators for the County of Suffolk, certified within and sealed up in Town meeting

Then the meeting was dissolved.

[**153.**] At a meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified, and legally warned, in public Town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the eighth day of April A D 1800, 10 °Clock A M

Warrant for calling the meeting - - Read

Honble Thomas Dawes Esq
was chosen Moderator for this meeting by a hand vote

The article in the warrant relative to compensation to Judge of Municipal Court, and to choose a suitable person learned in law to appear as advocate in said Court and to grant him compensation was read, whereupon it was moved and voted that

Joseph Russell Esq
General Elliot
Honble Thomas Dawes Esq
Josiah Quincy Esq
Mr Ebenezer Oliver
Charles Bulfinch Esq

be a committee to take the matter of compensation into consideration and report in this meeting

The Inhabitants were directed to bring in their votes for a suitable person to appear as advocate in the Municipal Court, and the votes being brought in & assorted it appeared that

John Phillips, was chosen.

The Committee chosen to consider what sum would be an adequate compensation to the Judge of the Municipal Court, and to the Advocate for the Town in the said Court report,

That in the year 1797 the Town voted that such a Court was expedient and necessary, and directed an application to be made to the legislature for its establishm[t].

[**154.**] This application has been several time under consideration in the General Court and at the last session of the Legislature received their sanction and was established by law —

The committee in proposing a sum as compensation to the Judge and Advocate which are to be appointed are desirous of naming what would be honorable to the Town and would insure the services of Gentlemen of abilities and respectability, at the same time they wish to pay a proper regard to decent economy

The committee would suggest that by the law the salary now to be voted cannot be reduced during the continuance of the Judge in his office but may be increased at the pleasure of the Town if upon experience it should not prove adequate to the services performed; the Committee therefore propose that the sum of Five hundred dollars Pr Annum be allowed as salary to the Judge of the Municipal Court, and that the sum of Two hundred dollars Pr Annum be allowed to the Town Advocate — these Officers to account respectively to the Town Treasurer for the Fees and Fines arising in their respective offices —

Joseph Russell Pr Order

The aforegoing Report having been read and considered — the Question was put, Viz. shall it be accepted — passed in the affirmative.

Then the Meeting dissolved.

[**155.**] At a meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the town of Boston duly qualified, and legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the thirteenth day of May AD 1800 10 °Clock AM —

Prayer was made by Rev^{d}. Doct. Elliot

Warrant for calling the meeting Read

That part of the constitution or frame of government which relates to the choice of Representatives Read

The law relative to mourning,* and extracts from several laws to be read in Town meeting

The Town having determined by a vote to choose seven persons to represent them in the General Court of Massachusetts to be held in the State house in Boston on the last Wednesday of May current, agreeable to the Constitution or frame of government for Massachusetts; the Inhabitants were directed by the Selectmen to withdraw and bring in their votes for seven Representatives, and then it was declared by the Selectmen that no votes would be received but such as are unfolded, and that they purpose the poll shall be closed at half-past One °Clock — the assessors to attend at the delivery of the votes, and the bell to begin tolling at One °Clock, and to continue tolling until a half an hour is expired.

The votes being brought in for seven Representatives the whole number of the same were found to be 2449, and upon assorting them it appeared that the following seven Gentlemen had obtained a majority of the votes Viz^{t}.

	Votes
Joseph Russell Esq.	2417
William Smith Esq.	2429
John Lowell Jun Esq.	1552
Mr. Samuel Cobb	2361
Samuel Parkman Esq.	2405
Joseph Hall Esq.	1559
Nathan Fraser Esq.	1552

The votes given for such as did not obtain a majority were for

William Tudor Esq	882
William Eustis Esq	911
James Bowdoin Esq	886

besides a few scattering votes.

[**156.**] The choice of Representatives being over and declared by the Selectmen

The Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq.

was chosen Moderator of this meeting in order that the town might proceed in transacting the other business mentioned in the warrant

Adjourned to 4 °Clock PM

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* See foot-note on page 69.

At 3 [4?] oClock PM the town met according to adjournment.

On motion Voted that the choice of an assessor in the room of Mr. Blanchard lately deceased be referred over to the adjournment — Also

Voted, that the Selectmen request the Committee relative to cullers of Staves to report suitable persons for that office, if they should think a further number to be necessary.

The memorial of the Board of Health was read but it was the sense of the Town that it should not be acted upon until the Committee on money matters report.

The article in the warrant viz Whether the Town will empower the Selectmen to sell part of a piece of land at the head of Middlecot street so called lately bought of Thomas Dennie" read; whereupon, Voted that the Gentlemen Selectmen be, and they hereby are authorized and impowered to dispose of said piece of land for the most it will fetch, and to apply the proceeds thereof to defray the expences of the new street, and the necessary repairs for Beacon Hill.

The application of John L. Sullivan in behalf of himself and Sarah Russell a minor, that the Town would accept a Street leading from Summer Street to Pond Street through lands of the late Thomas Russell in the words following viz "The Subscriber requests that a Street may be laid out from Summer Street to Pond Street, through land of Thomas Russells' Esq. deceased and now the property of the Subscriber and of Sarah Russell a minor, as follows beginning at a point 154 feet east [**157**] of the easterly side of Arch Street — thence running South westerly to land of the heirs of John Rowe Esq 260 feet, and being thirty five feet wide — thence four feet Northeasterly on said Rowes Land — then Southwesterly on said Rowes brick house to Pond Street said Street to be thirty feet wide at the North corner of said brick house, thence Northeasterly thirty five feet wide to Summer Street. The Subscriber engages that the Town shall be at no expence for the land so laid *out* into a Street, or for the fences that may be necessary to enclose it; that he will put the said Street into good order for the convenient passing of carriages, and will not expect any expence laid out thereon by the Town, until in the judgement of the Selectmen, the interest of the town or the claims of persons resident there, shall make it necessary that the same shall become a Town charge"

signed John L Sullivan

Therefore be it Known, that on the thirteenth day of May in the year of our Lord Eighteen hundred, The Selectmen, having considered the premises, do hereby lay out the aforedescribed

piece of land as a public Street or Town way and it is accordingly appropriated as a Street or way for the said Town forever by the name of Plymouth Street subject to the approbation and acceptance of the Town

Charles Bulfinch
David Tilden
Joseph Howard
Wm Porter
Wm Sherburne
John Tileston
Ebenr. Oliver
Russell Sturgis
} Selectmen.

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston legally warned and assembled May 13, 1800.—The above described Street was accepted as a public Street

Att William Cooper Town Clerk

[**158.**] The warrant at the request of the School Committee relative to the expediency of establishing a new School, was read and a further consideration of this request is to subside

The petition of a number of Blacks was read and after debate, they had leave to withdraw their petition.

Adjourned to Wednesday 21 May inst 10 °Clock AM.—

Wednesday May 21. 1800, The Town met according to adjournment

The Committee appointed to audit the Town Treasurers Accounts have attended that service and report, that they find the Selectmen's drafts amounts to - - - - - - 37230.82

Overseer drafts - - - - - - - - -	1549.90
Board of Health drafts - - - - - - -	5039. 4
	x53819.76
Committee for Building Almshouse A/C	18500
	$72319.76

Your Committee found his accounts well vouched & right cast and there was due to the Town the 30th Ult°. by the books after all the drafts are paid - - - - - - - - - - 27450.36.3

From which must be deducted		
Towns powder - - - -	1041.94.5	
Acc°. Interest paid - - -	4480.71.1	
Abatemt. "99 Tax suppose -	5000.	
Collectors Commissions - -	4000.30.4	
		14523.
leaves a balance of - - - - -		$12927.36.3

There is due to the Town from Collectors on '99 Tax

Benjamin Jepson - - - - - - - -	13645.43
Benjamin Henderson - - - - - - -	10267.
Thomas Bayley - - - - - - - - -	18539.93
James Thompson - - - - - - - -	14139.89
	56592.25

[**159.**] And there is due from the Town

To the Union Banks - - - - -	20,500	
To several persons p^r Notes - - -		7962 .. 13 .. 3
		28462 .. 13 .. 3

Your Committee are of opinion that the same sums as above will be necessary to pay the Selectmen's Overseers & board of healths drafts for the year ensuing which amounts to

	53819 . 76
Also one years interest on the 28962 .. 13 .. 3 —	1710 . 24
	55530 .
And they recommend a tax to be laid for	60,000 .—.

Annexed to the Treasurers general accounts a trial balance of his books — also the Board of Healths account — all which is respectfully submitted.

Herman Brimmer
Joseph Russell
Samuel Brown
} Committee

The aforegoing Report having been read and considered by the Town, the same was accepted, whereupon.

Voted that the sum of Sixty thousand dollars be raised by a tax to be assessed on the Polls, and estates of the Inhabitants of the Town to defray the expences of the current year.

Voted that the sum of Six hundred & sixty six dollars be allowed and paid unto Samuel Clap Esquire for his services as Town Treasurer the present year, the same to be paid him quarterly as it shall become due, and to commence on the first of last March

Voted that the sum of Six hundred & sixty six dollars be allowed and paid unto William Cooper Esq. for his services as Town Clerk the present year, the same to be paid him quarterly as it shall become due, and to commence on the first of March last.

Voted, That the sum of Four hundred & thirty three dollars be allowed and paid unto each of the Assessors for their respective services the present year, the same to be paid them quarterly, as it shall become due and to commence the first of March last.

[**160.**] Voted that the further sum of One hundred dollars be allowed and paid the assessors respectively in the manner aforesaid, in consideration of the rise of Provisions

Voted that the Town Treasurer be authorized and empowered to borrow on lawful interest for the use of the Board of Health as there may be occasion a sum not exceeding Four thousand dollars

On motion, Voted that the thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to the Board of Health for their eminent service in the discharge of the duties of their Office the last year.

The votes were brought in for one assessor in the room of Mr. Blanchard lately deceased — there being no choice the afternoon was assigned for that purpose

On motion Voted that the Thanks of the town be given to the Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq. for his good services as moderator

Adjourned to 3 Clock P M

At Three Clock PM the Town met according to adjournment, Col^o^. Dawes the moderator, being necessarily absent on public business

David Tilden Esq.

was chosen moderator by a hand Vote.

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw & bring in their votes for an assessor, and the same being brought and counted it appeared that the whole number was 708, and that

Mr. Jedidiah Parker

was chosen an assessor for the year ensuing - - - 469 votes

Voted that all matters and things which remain unfinished be referred over to the next *General* Town meeting that shall be called.

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

[**161.**] At a meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Friday the fourth day of July Anno Domini 1800

Warrant for calling the meeting - - Read

William Cooper, chosen Moderator

The Committee appointed last year to make choice of a Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the Anniversary of Independence, Reported, That they had made choice of Joseph Hall Esq. who has accepted the appointment,

On motion, adjourned to Old south Church, when agreeable to the information of the Chairman of the Selectmen

AN ORATION

To commemorate the Independence of the United States was delivered by Joseph Hall Esq. at the Old South Church

On motion voted that the Selectmen be a Committee to wait on Joseph Hall Esq. and in the name of the Town to thank him for the elegant and spirited Oration this day delivered by him at the request of the Town upon the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America, in which according to the institution of the Town he considered the feelings manners & principles which led to that great national event. —

On motion voted that the Gentlemen Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to some one able and learned Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the fourth day of July A D 1801, that day being the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America wherein the Orator is to consider the feelings manners and [**162**] principles which led to this great national event; as well as the important and happy effects whether general or domestic which have already or will forever flow from that auspicious epoch.

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

At a meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public Town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday 27 Augt. AD 1800, 10 oClock — AM—

Warrant for calling the meeting - - Read

Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq.
chosen Moderator of the meeting.

The article in the warrant relative to the right of the town in the Old State House read & considered whereupon Voted that Joseph Russell Esq. and John Lowell Jun Esq be and they

hereby are appointed Agents and Attornies in behalf of the town to appear at the Supreme Judicial Court now sitting in this town, and defend in the name of and behalf of the town against a petition for partition of Old State house in Boston filed by the Attorney General in behalf of the Commonwealth, and upon which Persons who were interested were directed to appear at the present term And the said Agents and each of them are hereby authorized to appear in said cause and to represent the Town and to do every needful relative thereto until a final determination of the same.

[**163.**] The article in the warrant viz "to consider the expediency of enlarging the South burying ground" was read — whereupon voted that the consideration of this matter be referred over to the next general town meeting.

Then this meeting was dissolved.

At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on the third day of November Anno Domini 1800 — 10 °Clock A. M. —

Prayer was made by Rev^d. Joseph Eckley D. D.

Warrant for calling the meeting - - Read

Paragraph of a Resolve of the General Court for the choice of one Representative for the first middle district of this Commonwealth in the Congress of the United States, read

It was then declared by the Selectmen that the Poll would be closed at half past 1 oClock

Persons voted for as a Representative of the first middle district of this Commonwealth in the next Congress of the United States Viz.

William Eustis Esq - - - - - - - - - - -	1819
Josiah Quincy Esq - - - - - - - - - - -	1959
Oliver Everett Esq - - - - - - - - - - -	2

An attested Copy of the persons voted for as above was sealed up in Town meeting after a declaration had been made by the Selectmen of the Persons voted for as a Representative of the first middle district of this Commonwealth in the Congress of the United States — and the same was put into the hands of the Secretary of this Commonwealth [**164**] subscribed as follows Viz

for John Avery Esq.

Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

1801.

[**165.**] At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil hall on Monday the ninth day of March Anno Domini 1801. nine oClock AM —

Prayer was made by Rev^{d}. Thomas Baldwin

Warrant for calling a meeting - - Read.

Sundry laws to be read at this meeting were accordingly Read

Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq.
was chosen Moderator by a hand vote

The inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their votes for a Town Clerk, and the same having been brought in and counted it appeared that

William Cooper
was chosen Town Clerk for the year ensuing, and the Oath of Office administered by Mr. Justice Sherburne

The inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their votes for nine Selectmen, the same being brought in and sorted it appeared that only eight were chosen viz

Charles Bulfinch Esq
David Tilden Esq
Russell Sturgis Esq
Capt. Joseph Howard
William Porter
William Sherburne Esq
Mr. John Tileston
Mr. Ebenezer Oliver

The votes having been brought in for the one wanting it appeared that Mr. Jonathan Hunnewell was chosen a Selectman in the room of Mr. Hancock

[**166.**] On motion voted that the thanks of the Town be and hereby are given unto Ebenezer Hancock Esq for his good services as a Selectman a number of years past

Votes for a Treasurer for the County of Suffolk were brought in and counted by the Moderator and Town Clerk when it appeared that the whole number was 285, all of which were for Ebenezer Seaver Esq a discreet suitable person, and a Freeholder and Resident in said County.

Votes for a Register of deeds for the County of Suffolk were brought in and counted by the Moderator and Town Clerk when it appeared that the whole number was 223, all of which were for William Alline Esq a discreet suitable person and a Freeholder and Resident in said County.—

Samuel Clap Esq was chosen Town Treasurer for the ensuing year.

Voted that in addition to the Selectmen twelve persons shall be appointed, chosen as a School Committee and the votes being brought in and sorted it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen viz

Honble Thomas Dawes Esq
Revd Samuel West D.D.
Dr. Thomas Welch
Rev^d. Joseph Eckley DD
Rev^d. J. T. Kirkland
Dr. Aaron Dexter
Mr. William Smith
Mr. Arnold Wells Jun.
Edward Gray Esq.
David Greene Esq
Josiah Quincy Esq
Rev^d. William Emmerson

Voted that the above named Gentlemen who conjunctly with the Selectmen are termed the School committee, be and hereby are directed to carry the new system of Education, which has been adopted by the Town into operation, and said Committee [**167**] are also authorized and empowered conjunctly to manage & regulate the officers & government of the schools, and in future to exercise all the power relating to the Schools and Schoolmasters, which the Selectmen or such Committees were authorized by the laws of this Commonwealth or the votes of the Town to exercise, any former vote of the town to the contrary notwithstanding.

The inhabitants brought in their votes for 24 Fire wards, when it appeared that

Thomas Melvill
Edward Edes
Amasa Davis
Samuel Parkman
Russell Sturgis
Henry Jackson
William Scollay
Joseph May
} Esquires

Capt. Robert Gardner

John May
William Brown
Nathl. Fellows
} Esquires

Samuel Bradford
Mr. Joseph Head
Thomas H. Perkins Esq.
John Winslow Esq.
Capt. Joseph Howard
Mr. Benjamin Joy

Stephen Codman Esq.
Andrew Cunningham Esq.
Mr. John Bray
Mr. Thomas Dennie
Gen[l]. Simon Elliot
Mr. Gorham Parsons
were chosen Fire wards for the ensuing year.

Adjourned to 3 oClock P.M.

At three oClock P M the Inhabitants accordingly met, & were directed to bring in their votes for a town advocate for the municipal Court, and the same having been brought in it appeared that John Phillips Esq. was chosen.

[**168.**] Voted that the assessors be and hereby are directed to sit for such assessments of taxes, as they shall judge reasonable, two days in such weeks after the delivery of the tax books to the collectors for the space of six weeks and no longer, saving they be allowed to set the last week in February Lords days excepted for the abatement of the taxes of such persons as had not an opportunity of applying in the above limited time by reason of their being out of the Commonwealth or any other unavoidable hindrance, and that the assessors determine on the said two days which is to be noted on the tax bills to be delivered to the inhabitants

Voted that Five percent be and hereby are allowed to the collectors of Taxes for the year ensuing for all such sums of money and public securities as they shall collect and pay in [to] the several treasurers of the sums committed to them to collect also that such collectors shall give bond with sufficient sureties to the satisfaction of the Selectmen for the faithful discharge of their duty in said office and complying with this vote and that they will not receive any premium or gratuity for discounting any Orders and notes or receipts from the Treasurer of this State or the Treasurer of this town.

The votes being brought in for twelve Overseers of the poor it appeared that

Edward Proctor
John Sweetser
Jon[a]. L. Austin,
Mr. Edward Edes
Henry Hill
William Smith
William Phillips
Stephen Gorham, } Esquires
Mr. Oliver Brewster
Arnold Welles Jun Esq
Dr Redford Webster
Thomas Perkins Esq.
were chosen Overseers of the poor for the year ensuing

The votes being brought in for four collectors of taxes it appeared that

Messrs. Benjamin Henderson
Thomas Bayley
Benjamin Jepson
Christopher Marshall

[**169.**] were chosen Collectors of Taxes for the year ensuing

The votes being brought in for five assessors and counted and sorted it appeared that

Messrs. John R. Sigourney
Ebenezer Seaver
John Hurd
Benjamin Hammatt Jun
Jedediah Parker

were chosen assessors for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Shubael Hewes
Jirah Holbrook
Samuel Gridley
Amos Lewis
Enoch May
Abraham Tuckerman
Samuel White
Andrew Townsend
Noah Butts
Thomas Stevenson
John Bosson
Willard Lane

were chosen Constables for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Benjamin White
Moses Ayers
Daniel Ingersol
William Darricot

were chosen Fence viewers for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Barney Connor
William Wheeler

were chosen Hogreeves for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Barney Conner
William Wheeler

were chosen Haywards for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Jeffry Richardson
Isaac P Davis

were chosen Surveyors of Hemp for the year ensuing.

[**170.**] Edward Tuckerman Esq.
Mr. Edward Edes

were chosen Surveyors of Wheat for the year ensuing.

Messrs. John Wells
William Cooper Hunneman
were chosen Assay masters for the year ensuing.

The Selectmen
were chosen surveyors of high ways for the year ensuing

Messrs. Roger Bartlett
Jonathan Cushing
were chosen cullers of dry fish for the year ensuing.

Mr. Edward Rumley
was chosen Inspector of Stone Lime for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Henry Purket
Lemuel Gardner
Thomas Barber
James Eason
were chosen Cullers of Hoops & Staves for the year ensuing.

Votes for twelve Surveyors of Boards & Shingles, brought in when it appeared that
Messrs. Joshua Bentley
Benjamin White
Benjamin Page
James Blake
John Cogswell
Edmund Ranger
William Clouston
William Darricott
William Ellison
James Robbins
William Andrews
Daniel Ingersol
were chosen Surveyors of boards & Shingles for the ensuing year

Voted that Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq.
Joseph Russell Esq.
Samuel Brown Esq.
be and hereby are appointed a Committee to audit the accounts [171] of the Town Treasurer, and also the accounts of the Selectmen, Overseers of the poor and board of health, and said committee are also directed to report the sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present year.

The article in the warrant, to wit "To consider the expediency of a revision and new edition of the By Laws" was read whereupon Voted that
the Honble. George Richards Minot
John Phillips
James Prince
be a committee to take up this article and report at May meeting.

The petition of James Pratt praying liberty to erect a Fish stall on the Mill Creek was read.

Whereupon Voted that the consideration of this petition be referred to the Board of Health who are desired to make report thereon at the Adjournment.

The Report of the Selectmen relative to the improvement and disposal of the lands on the Neck was read and the further consideration of this important matter was referred to the May meeting; and the said report to be printed in the public newspapers for the information and consideration of the Inhabitants

And this meeting was then adjourned to Wednesday the eighteenth day of March inst at 10 oClock A M—

The Inhabitants met on Wednesday 18th. March according to adjournment

Arnold Wells Jun. Esq having declined serving any longer as an Overseer of the Poor, On motion voted unanimously that the thanks of the Town be given unto Arnold Welles Jr. Esq. for his good services as an overseer of the poor a number of years past.

The choice of an Overseer was referred to May Meeting

[**172.**] The committee on James Pratts petition for a fish stall not having reported it was left to said Committee who are the board of health to act thereon as they shall judge best.

The votes for a Constable in the room of Mr. Bosson who declines serving being brought in it appeared that Mr. William Crosby was chosen Constable for the year ensuing.

Voted that all matters which shall remain unfinished at this meeting be referred over to May meeting

Voted unanimously that the Thanks of the Town be given to the Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq the Moderator of this meeting for his good services in the dispatch given the business which came before them

Then the meeting was dissolved.

[**173.**] At a meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the town of Boston of twenty one years of age and upwards qualified as the constitution prescribes and legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 6th. day of April Anno Domini 1801, nine oClock A M. —

Prayer by Rev^{d}. Mr. Freeman

Warrant for calling the meeting Read

Paragraph of the Constitution or frame of government, relative to the choice of Governor L^{t}. Governor and Senators Read.

It was then declared by the Selectmen that no vote would be received but such as were unfolded, and that they propose the poll should be closed at half past one oClock the votes to be received at the table and the bells to begin tolling at ½ past one oClock and to continue for half an hour.

Persons *voted* for as Governor with the number of votes for each person — Viz

	Votes
His Excellency Caleb Strong Esq. - - - - - -	1851
Honorable Elbridge Gerry Esq. - - - - - -	2078

Persons voted for as Lieu^{t}. Governor with the number of votes for each person viz

Honble. William Heath Esq. - - - - - - - -	2062
Honble. Samuel Phillips Esq. - - - - - - - -	1841
Honble. Edwd. H. Robbins Esq. - - - - - - -	14

Persons voted for as Senators for the County of Suffolk with the number of votes for each person viz.

Honble. Oliver Wendell Esq.	3643
Honble. John C. Jones Esq	1759
Honble. William Tudor Esq	3071
Honble. James Bowdoin Esq	2069
Honble. John Codman Esq.	1738
Honble. Benjamin Austin Esq.	102
[174.] Charles Jarvis Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	92
Jonathan Loring Esq. - - - - - - - - - - - -	2069
Honble. Harrison Gray Otis Esq. - - - - - -	1
Mr. Samuel Norton - - - - - - - - - - -	1
Capt. James Prince - - - - - - - - - - -	78
George Blake Esq. - - - - - - - - - - - -	1

Attested copies of the persons voted for as Governor, Lieu^{t}. Governor and Senators for the County of Suffolk were committed by the Town Clerk to the Secretary of the Commonwealth and the enclosures sealed up in town meeting, [and superscribed] as follows vizt.

For John Avery Esq.
Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The number of votes of the town of Boston for a Governor Lieu^{t}. Governor & four Senators for the County of Suffolk certified within and sealed up in Town meeting.

Then the meeting was dissolved.

[175.] At a meeting of the Freeholders and other inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the thirteenth day of May Anno Domini 1801, 10 °Clock A M —

Prayer was made by the Rev^{d}. Mr. Emmerson

Warrant for calling the meeting Read

That part of the Constitution or Frame of Government which relates to the choice of Representatives - - Read

The law relative to mourning and extracts from several laws to be read in town meeting were accordingly - - Read

The town having determined by a vote to choose seven persons to represent them in the General Court of Massachusetts to be holden in the State house in Boston on the last Wednesday in May current agreeable to the constitution or frame of Government for Massachusetts; the Inhabitants were directed by the Selectmen to withdraw and bring in their votes for seven Representatives and then it was declared by the Selectmen that no votes would be received but such as are unfolded, and that they propose the Poll shall be closed at ½ past One oClock. the assessors to attend at the delivery of the votes, and the bell to begin tolling at 1 oClock, and to continue tolling untill half an hour is expired.

The votes being brought in for seven Representatives, the whole number of the same were found to be 2745, and upon sorting them it appeared that the following seven Gentlemen had obtained a majority of the Votes viz

Charles Jarvis Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	1474
David Tilden Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	1467
Benjamin Austin Jun. Esq	1456
Nath'. Fellowes Esq	1460
George Blake Esq.	1467
Capt. James Prince	1455
Russell Sturgis Esq.	1469

The votes given for such as did not obtain were for

Honble. John C. Jones Esq - - - - - - - -	1281
Joseph Russell Esq - - - - - - - - - - -	1272
Saml. Parkman Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	1277
[176.] William Smith Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	1276
Samuel Cobb Esq. - - - - - - - - - - - -	1267
Mr. Jonathan Hunnewell - - - - - - - - - -	1253
John Phillips Esq - - - - - - - - - - - -	1269
Josiah Quincy Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	21

besides, a few scattering votes

The choice of Representatives being over and declared by the Selectmen. The Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq. was chosen Moderator of this meeting by a hand vote that the town might proceed in transacting the other business mentioned in the warrant

Adjourned to Four oClock P M.

At Four oClock P M the inhabitants met according to adjournment —

The votes being brought in for one Overseer of the poor in the room of Arnold Welles Esq who had resigned, and received a vote of thanks for his good services while in that office it appeared that Stephen Codman Esq. was chosen an overseer of the poor for the year ensuing.

The petition of a number of inhabitants for widening the Street from Common Street to the new State house was read, and after large debate

Voted that said petition be referred for further consideration to the adjournment of this meeting, and that the Selectmen be requested that previous to said adjournment they view the same, consider the expence that will attend the proposed alteration of the Street and report their opinion on the Subject

The article in the warrant viz "To act upon the report of the Selectmen respecting the improvement and disposal of the Towns land on the neck" read, whereupon Voted that this matter be referred for the further consideration of the Selectmen, and that the following Gentlemen be added to that Committee Viz

the Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq
George R Minot Esq
Joseph Russell Esq
Thomas Edwards Esq
[177.] Benjamin Austin Jun Esq
Mr. Elisha Sigourney
Samuel Brown Esq

and they are requested to consider this matter at large and report thereon at the adjournment.

The petition relative to a new street near Beacon Hill, was read whereupon, Voted that this matter be referred to the Gentlemen Selectmen to report thereon

Messrs. Tilden Fellowes & Sturgis letters purporting their resignation as representatives received and read to the Inhabitants.

The committee relative to Town By-laws reported a number of By laws, and the further consideration of the same was referred to the adjournment

Then the town meeting was (relative to Representatives) adjourned to Friday next being the 15 inst 10 °Clock A M. And the May meeting to Friday next at 1 °Clock being the 15 instant.

On Friday 10 °Clock AM the Town met according to adjournment, The Selectmen presided.

The letters of Messrs. Tilden Sturgis and Fellowes purporting their resignation as Representatives as also their joint letter purporting their acceptance of that trust were read and after debate thereon Joseph Russell Esq. moved and was seconded by Dr. Jarvis that this meeting be dissolved, and the question being accordingly put passed in the affirmative almost unanimously and the meeting was then dissolved.

On Friday May 15, 1801 at one oClock PM the Town met

Thomas Dawes Esq. in the seat

The Board of Health a Committee on Mr. Pratts Petition relative to a Fish Stall over Mill Creek, reported, and their report was referred over for consideration to the adjournment of this meeting

[**178.**] Adjourned to Friday next being the 22d. instant at eleven oclock A M.

Friday May 22 the Town met according to adjournment

The report of the Committee on the petition of James Pratt read and accepted

The report of the Committee relative to widening Centre Street, read: and after some debate the question was put viz "Whether said report shall be accepted" which passed in the affirmative.

The report of the joint Committee relative to the lands on the Neck with respect to their improvement and disposal, was read and considered, and the question being put viz whether the same shall be accepted — it passed in the affirmative and on motion Voted that 12 °Clock be the time appointed to come to the choice of six Agents agreeable to the report of said Committee, — the time arriving and the votes having been brought in and counted it appeared that

The Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq
George Richard Minot Esq
John Winslow Esq
William Tudor Esq
Deacon William Brown
Mr. Josiah Knapp

were the persons added to the Selectmen who conjunctly are to lease and manage said lands in such a manner as shall appear to them for the interest of the Town

The report of the Committee on the petition for a new Street near Beacon Hill was read and accepted

The petition of Mr. Edward Howe that a deed may be given him &c was read, and on motion the petitioner has leave to withdraw his petition.

The committee on Town Treasurers accompts &c Report

The selectmens drafts amount to - - - -	41,257.99
Overseers of the poor - - - - - - - -	15499.74
Board of Health - - - - - - - - -	4731.52
Total from May 1800 to May 1801—	61489.25

The Treasurer charges money paid S Brown for new Almshouse - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1500.
Counterfits Receivd for Taxes - - - - - -	20.
[**179.**] Amount of abatements on Assessors certificates - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	3224.73
Ditto for ditto James Thompsons Estate - - - -	559.50
Amount of Andrew Tukesburys account - - - -	228.91
Interest paid from December 1795 to March 1801 -	6099.23
New account for ballance - - - - - - - - - -	21601.90
	94723.57

The Treasurer gives credit by balance of old a/c - -	27450.36
By cash received for States poor - - - - - - - -	4610.73
By cash of Hopestill Foster for hay engine paym^{t}. -	143.13
By cash of William Gooch for Market 4 paym^{ts}. - -	235.10
By Samuel Hastings - - - - - - - - - - - - -	5.
By G R Minot - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1.
By Charles Bulfinch - - - - - - - - - - - - -	110.
By error in July draft - - - - - - - - - - - -	1.50
By O Ballard - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	11.50
By A Tukesbury three years Rent - - - - - - -	500.
By T W Folsom - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	169.
By amount of Rents - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1487.25
By amount of Tax - - - - - - - - - - - - -	60000.
	94723.57

The Treasurer also exhibits a trial Balance

and charges Powder	1041.94.5	C^{r}. Notes pay^{ble}	29962.15.3
Andrew Tukesbury	290.25	Estate of John Gray	107.
Benj^{a}. Henderson	10010.77	Board Healths draft	733.53
Thomas Bayley	17763.59	Town of Boston	21600.90
Benj^{a} Jepson	21966.73	Overseers drafts	1442.35
Estate I Thompson	1316.78	Selectmens d^{o}	5217.46
C Marshall 2338.78			
13905.29	16244. 7		
	59064.35.5		$59064.35.5

Amount of Notes due from Town of Boston to Union Bank

To E Price	£220.15.4	22000.
B Barker - - - -	463.5	
E Partridge	231.12.6	
S Atkins - - - -	300.	
Selectmen Boston	369.	
Cloughs note	4.	
Estate of B Waldo	800.	
	2388.12.10 equal to - - -	7962.13
		$29962.13

The particulars of the aforegoing Statement are in the several accounts annexed to which a reference may be had, all which [180] appears to be well vouched and well cast. It is presumed that the hay engine and the Stalls outside the Market will be much more productive the present year than the last. And that several articles of charge will not be called for the coming year by the board of Selectmen. Also the expences of the Board of Health will be considerably less the ensuing year. The Committee after taking many circumstances of the Town into consideration and as connected with the county of Suffolk recommend a tax to be laid for Sixty thousand dollars. — all which is respectfully submitted

Thomas Dawes }
Joseph Russell } Committee

The aforegoing report having been read and considered the same was accepted, whereupon

Voted that the sum of Sixty thousand dollars be raised by a tax to be assessed on the Polls and Estates of the Inhabitants of the town to defray the expences of the current year.

Voted that the sum of Six hundred & sixty dollars be allowed and paid unto Samuel Clap Esq. for his services as Town Treasurer the present year, and the same to be paid him quarterly as it shall become due, and to commence the first of last March.

Voted that the sum of Six hundred & sixty six dollars be allowed and paid unto William Cooper for his services as Town Clerk the present year the same to be paid him quarterly as it shall become due and to commence the first of March last.

Voted that the sum of Four hundred & thirty three dollars be allowed and paid unto each of the Assessors for their respective services the present year, the same to be paid them quarterly as it shall become due and to commence the first of March last.

Voted that the further sum of One hundred dollars be allowed and paid to each of the Assessors in the manner aforesaid in consideration of the rise of provisions.

Voted that the Town treasurer be authorized and empowered to borrow on lawful interest for the use of the Board of Health as there may be occasion a sum not exceeding 3000 dollars

[**181.**] Voted that the Town Treasurer be authorized and empowered to borrow on lawful interest for the use of the Selectmen as there may be occasion a sum not exceeding two thousand dollars

On motion voted that the thanks of the town be and hereby are given the Board of Health for their eminent service in the discharge of the duties of their office the last year.

Voted that in addition to the former allowance of two hundred dollars made the Town advocate John Phillips Esq. for his service he be further allowed the sum of One hundred dollars.

Mr. Howes Petition was read, and after some debate a motion obtained that he have leave to withdraw his petition.

The Selectmen in conjunction with the Committee appointed to take into consideration the report of the Selectmen respecting the improvement and disposal of the Towns land on the Neck" take leave to report.

That they have attended to the business committed to them; that they are forcibly struck with the importance and value of those lands and the propriety of making an attempt to render them productive

That they are equally impressed with the justness of the remark made by the Selectmen with respect to what has been and what may be done respecting them; and in order to bring the subject before the town in an intelligent and concise form they recommend that the land be laid out in streets and lots at the discretion of the Trustees herein after referred to as nearly as may be according to the plan exhibited by the Selectmen

That Trustees be appointed to manage and lease the said lands in such manner as shall appear to them best for the interest of the town

That the Trustees be the Selectmen for the time being and six such other persons as the Town may choose to be added to them at their annual meeting in May.

That until the further or other order of the town the income of the leases of the land be appropriated to the improvement of the same.

That the Trustees be and hereby are impowered in the name and behalf of the town to make and execute Leases of the same lands in such portions or lots as [**182**] to them shall appear best for any number of years not exceeding ninety nine, which Report is respectfully submitted

By order of the joint Committee
Chas. Bulfinch Chairman

A statement of the Expences of the town the last year was laid before the Inhabitants by the Selectmen for their inspection; and by them ordered to be printed, more fully to answer the purpose —Then adjourned to 4 °Clock P M.

The town met agreeably to adjournment at Four oClock P M.

The committee appointed to consider the expediency of a revision and new edition of the By laws of the town Report, that in their opinion amendments in several of the By laws are necessary and others of them ought to be repeated, [repealed?] that the present edition contains several laws of the Commonwealth which are repealed, some that are obsolete or not so particularly applicable to this town as to make them useful in a selection for the inhabitants; and that sundry late laws made by the General Court ought to be added together with the regulations of the Board of Health

That it is expedient a new edition improved on the aforegoing plan should be published; and with respect to the arrangement the Committee think it would be best to permit the By-laws in the first part of the work, and the laws of this Commonwealth immediately respecting the Town in an appendix; the whole to be accompanied with an accurate index,

They therefore report drafts of the following Laws and recommend that all other By laws of the town now in force be repealed, Viz

1 a law to prevent nuisances in the Streets,
2 a law respecting the conduct of persons in the Streets,
3 a law to prevent brick & Lime kilns &c
4 a law to prevent nuisances in the Common
5 a law regulating Chimnies & Sweepers
6 a law regulating carts trucks & Sleds
7 a law to regulate stands of Carts trucks & Sleds
8 a law to regulate the driving of horses & carriages
9 a Law relating to Bulls & Cows —
[**183.**] 10 a law regulating Funerals
11 a law regulating necessaries
12 a law regulating pumps & wells
13 a law regulating common criers
14 a law imposing restrictions on Dogs
15 a Law prohibiting forestalling & engrossing Provisions

16 a Law regulating the carrying of Manure
17 a Law making general regulations
18 a Law respecting Officers appointed by the Selectmen; all which is respectfully submitted by the Committee

George Richards Minot Chairman.

The laws aforementioned were read and some amendments being made they were separately voted to be accepted as by the connected Copies on file. it was then Voted that the Committee who revised the aforegoing Laws be desired to present them to the Court of Sessions for their approbation also

Voted that the Selectmen be desired to cause a sufficient number of the laws to be printed and distributed to every Householder and that in the Arrangement they adopt the mode pointed out by the Committee

Voted that any matters and things unfinished at this meeting be referred over to the next general town meeting that shall be called.

Voted that the thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to the Honble Thomas Dawes Esq. the Moderator of this meeting for his good services in the dispatch given the business which came before them.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved

[184.] At a meeting of the Freeholders and other inhabitants of the town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Saturday the 4th day of July A D 1801 9 oClock AM.

Warrant for calling the meeting Read.

William Cooper chosen Moderator

The committee appointed the last year to make choice of a Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the Anniversary of Independence Reported that they had made choice of Charles Paine Esq. who has accepted the appointmnnt.

On motion adjourned to Old South Church when agreeable to information of the Selectmen, an

ORATION

to commemorate the Independence of the United States was delivered by Charles Paine Esq at the Old South Church

On motion voted that the Selectmen be a Committee to wait on Charles Paine Esq and in the name of the Town to thank him for

the elegant and spirited Oration this day delivered by him at the request of the Town upon the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America; in which according to the institution of the town he considered the feelings manners & principles which led to that great national event and to request of him a copy thereof for the press

On motion Voted that the Gentlemen Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to some one able and learned Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the fourth of July A D 1802, that day being the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America wherein the Orator is to consider the feelings manners & principles which led to this great national event; as well as the important & [**185**] happy effects whether general or domestic which have already or will forever flow from that auspicious epoch

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

At a meeting of the Freeholders & other inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 31st day of December Anno Domini 1801. ten oclock Forenoon —

Warrant for calling the Meeting

Honble Thomas Dawes Esq chosen Moderator by a hand [vote] unanimously —

That part of the article in the warrant viz. "To receive the accounts of the Agents for erecting the new almshouse, and the accounts of the Treasurer of monies borrowed for the same House; and to consider and adopt measurēs to discharge the balance that may be due," was read, whereupon

Voted, that Honble. John C. Jones Esq.
Capt. James Prince
Honble. Benja. Austin Jun Esq.
Samuel Parkman Esq.
Honble. Thomas Davis Esq.

be a committee to audit the accounts of the Agents for building the new almshouse to consider the compensation that may be proper to be allowed for their time and good services in directing and superintending the building — Also that the said Committee be directed to report what in their opinion would be the most eligible mode of raising a sufficient sum to discharge the balance as soon as possible.

The petition of a number of the Inhabitants that the Town would take legal and efficacious measures to discover and remove

vagrants and Strangers of suspicious characters who have no regular employment, and to prevent the introduction [**186**] of such persons in future, to come in to some permanent regulations of watches or patroles to preserve the Town from incendiaries, to adopt measures more effectually to guard against fires and generally to do what may be thought necessary for the security of the town" was read, and after some debate

Voted that Honble. James Sullivan
Honble. John Codman, Esquires
Capt. James Prince
George Blake Esq
Honble. Judge Bourne
Arnold Welles Esq
Nathl. Fellowes Esq

be a Committee to take this matter into consideration and report at the adjournment of this meeting

Then the meeting was adjourned to Monday the eleventh day of January next 10 oClock Forenoon.

1802.

On Monday, eleventh day of January 1802 at ten o'clock Forenoon the Town met according to adjournment.

The committee relative to New Almshouse Report.

First, That having caused the accounts of the Agents to be carefully examined, they find them well vouched, rightly cast, and

	Doll^{s}.
a balance due them from the town of - - - - -	23,533.32
2^{d}. Your Committee are of opinion that the Town should allow the Agents for their time & services in directing & superintending the buildings the sum of -	2400
	$25933.32
This will leave a balance due the Agent's to be provided for [of] - - - - - - - - - -	Dollars 25933.32

3^{d}. Your committee recommend that the Town Treasurer be directed and empowered to borrow on the credit of the town, of any corporate body or Individuals disposed to loan the same on interest not exceeding that paid at the Banks the sum of Twenty six thousand dollars for the purpose of discharging the balance due to the Agents and in consideration of their services, and that the same with the interest that may be due together with the further sum of Twenty thousand dollars already borrowed by the [**187**] Town of the Union Bank to discharge the drafts of the Agents and the interest that has or may accrue thereon be

assessed on the Inhabitants of the town by two yearly assessments to commence with the next yearly town tax and to be expressly applied to the repayment of the monies so borrowed, said tax to be separately mentioned in the tax bills by itself the proceeds to be sacredly appropriated to this purpose and to be paid over by the Treasurer to this & no other use

4th. The Committee having viewed the Almshouse & its appendages conceive it to be their duty to state to the Town that in their opinion the Agency has been executed with fidelity and judgment highly honorable to the Gentlemen engaged therein, and they propose

That the thanks of the Town be given to the Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq & Samuel Brown Esq the surviving Agents employed in directing and superintending the building of the Almshouse; for the able and masterly manner in which they (together with the late Honble. George Richards Minot Esq also one of the Agents deceased) have discharged the important trust reposed in them by their Fellow Citizens

The above Report having been read and amended in meeting Voted that the same be accepted, also Voted unanimously that the aforegoing vote of Thanks be published in the several papers from said Report

The Report of the Committee on the other part of the warrant was read, and after large debate had thereon it was moved and Voted that said Report be printed in hand bills and sent to the houses of the Inhabitants for further inspection & consideration — before the adjournment of this meeting also

Voted that the Selectmen & Overseers of the Poor and Committee that erected the almshouse, be requested to enquire and report at the adjournment whether any part of the Almshouse and if any what part can be fitted for the use of a workhouse and what the expence of the same will probably be as well as the expence of providing an apparatus materials and implements to employ People who may be sent there, and to report at large on the subject of a Workhouse in that or in any other place

[188.] This meeting was then adjourned to Thursday 21 at 10 °Clock AM

Thursday Jany 21 at 10 oclock AM met according to adjournment The printed Report of the Committees relative to fires, vagrants &c was read to the Inhabitants

The committee to enquire if any and what part of the new almshouse can be fitted for the use of a Workhouse, Report, that they have visited and carefully viewed the Almshouse and find

three rooms distinguished as a Bridewell and work room for such as are committed as Vagrants & proper subjects of a work house and other apartments might at present be spared for this purpose — those rooms are perfectly dry well warmed and ventilated but they are not separate from other parts of the house nor sufficiently strong to be considered as places of safekeeping Your Committee are of opinion that no division of the Almshouse can be set apart as a House of correction without greatly incommoding the poor and incurring a heavy expence to render it secure by additional Brick walls and Partitions iron gates and strong doors to prevent the vicious and depraved from associating with the objects of charity Your Committee would not recommend so great an alteration in the present house as would be necessary for these purposes which would afford but a temporary accommodation for should the number of the Poor increase with the natural increase of the Town, the whole of the Almshouse would be wanted for their use

In reporting at large on the subject of a House of Correction as directed by the latter part of their commission, your Committee are of opinion that an establishment of this kind would be productive of the most beneficial effects to the Town

For this purpose it will be necessary to have a separate building suitably constructed upon principles of strength and security enclosed with proper walls and under the direction of a watchful Inspector & Assistant. Workrooms, lodging rooms and solitary cells for the confinement of the unruly should be provided and a constant supply of coarse articles of labour. From the experience of other places your Committee have no doubt that such a house would maintain itself after being endowed [**189**] with a moderate Capital for the supply of raw materials and the necessary stock in hand — the objects of employment which occur to the Committee are the picking of Oakum the grinding of Logwood and other dye woods, the hammering of stone for the underpinning of houses and flagging of the foot walks of Streets, grinding corn for the use of the house and any other coarse mill work.

The Committee are so fully impressed with the importance of such an establishment in every well regulated Capital Town that they would immediately propose that measures should be taken for erecting such a building, were they not sensible of the burden that the town now labour under to discharge the balance due upon the Almshouse.

No correct estimate can be made of the expence of such a building and of the apparatus materials and implements to employ those who may be sent there, but it is presumed that it must be twenty or thirty thousand dollars.

Your Committee would respectfully suggest that the attention of the Legislature is now turned to the subject of a State Prison and it is probable that they will direct it to be built immediately; that the building of this Prison will deter persons of depraved Characters from resorting to this town, and that a number who

are now in the Jail will be removed thereto — The Committee therefore propose that until the Town shall have discharged its present debt, the magistrates and Overseers of the Poor shall continue to make use of this Jail and such part of the Almshouse as can be spared for a workhouse and House of correction, that they be requested to procure materials for work that the persons sent there may be constantly employed, and to have a few solitary cells, constructed for the confinement of the refractory & unruly

by Order Charles Bulfinch, Chairm.

The aforegoing Report having been read & duly considered, was accepted by the Town almost unanimously.

The printed Report relative to Fires, Vagrants &c was again read, and after debate had thereon the following votes were passed almost unanimously viz :

Voted That there be immediately appointed by the Selectmen, one person in each ward, for the purpose of obtaining [**190**] and returning to the Selectmen weekly the names & circumstances of all persons within the same, not being proper Inhabitants of the Town and who have no visible, reputable means of gaining a livelihood, and are not House holders within the Town, and of all such as belong to other towns States and Countries, having no fixed reputable manner of business.

Voted that the Selectmen, Overseers of the poor and Magistrates in the town be requested to be exact and vigilant in executing the laws authorizing the removal of persons whose characters are suspicious, whose morals are bad, who have no settled reputable means for a livelihood, and who by the laws are liable to be removed from the town or State.

Voted that the overseers of the poor and magistrates be requested to exert themselves to have the laws for committing idle, vagrant persons to the Workhouse, house of correction or common Jail, as the law may direct *carried* into full execution and in which they shall have every needed aid from the inhabitants of the Town.

Voted that the Town adopt the method reported by the Committee for the appointment of watches and request the Selectmen and magistrates to have the same carried into execution, and that the wages of the Captains & Assistants be settled by the Selectmen, and that the Selectmen be requested to take effectual measures, by the construction of the watch houses and otherwise that the intentions of the town be not defeated by a want of attention or vigilance in the watches

Voted that the Representatives of the town be instructed to obtain a revision of the laws in regard to the introduction of For-

eigners and to have the same so amended as that they shall be competent to prevent Foreigners of idle immoral & dissolute character from being brought to the Town from other Countries. That the Representatives use their endeavour to obtain an alteration in the law respecting the appointment of watches so far as that the Selectmen of Boston shall have the same power in that respect as the Justices of the peace and the Selectmen together have now; That the Town Clerk deliver the Representatives a copy of this vote as soon as may be.

[**191.**] Voted that the Selectmen by their Superintendent or otherwise constantly enquire and observe in every part of the Town where there may be any collection of shavings, or other combustibles to the danger and nuisances of the Town and cause the Attorney General or the Town attorney to have information thereof, that prosecutions may commence thereon.

Voted that one person for each ward, be now appointed for the purpose of organizing a voluntary patrole of the inhabitants during such time as they shall judge expedient, when the following persons were chosen Viz.

Capt John Bray Ward N°	1
Col° Robt. Gardner	2
Thomas Lewis	3
Josiah Vose	4
Capt. Mitchell Lincoln	5
Isaiah Doane	6
Capt. Saml. Prince	7
David Bradlee Esq	8
Arnold Welles Jr Esq	9
Genl. John Winslow	10
Capt. Messinger	11
Col°. Amasa Davis	12

It was then voted that should either of the above Gentlemen decline or from any cause be unable to accept the above appointment the Selectmen are desired to fill such vacancy.

Voted that the thanks of the town be given the Moderator for his good services in that station

Then the meeting was Dissolved.

[**192.**] At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the first day of March Anno Domini 1802 at 10 °Clock AM

Warrant for calling the meeting - - - Read

David Tilden Esq.

was chosen Moderator by a hand vote

The article in the Warrant relative to the list of qualified voters for Governor &c &c was read and considered, whereupon

Voted that a Committee of three persons be chosen for each Ward to revise correct and complete the list of qualified Voters in their respective wards who are to report the same to the Selectmen, and the following persons were accordingly chosen for said purpose vizt.

Messrs. Josiah Snelling Joseph Callender & Capt. Jno Bray for ward N° 1 — Mess John Truman, Rt Gardner & Capt. Jacob Rhoades N° 2. Mess Joseph Smith Edward Edes & Col^{o} Proctor N° 3. Mess Joseph Kettel Josiah Vose and John Wells N° 4 Mess Richard Hewes, Mitchell Lincoln, and Samuel Sturgis N° 5, Jno Coffin Jones Esq. Samuel Whitwell and Samuel Snelling N° 6, Samuel Parkman Esq. Saml. Sumner & Benj^{a}. Austin Esq. N° 7 — William Smith Esq. Capt. John Brazier and Edward Gray Esq. N° 8, Benj^{a} Russell Esq. John Fox & Arnold Welles Esq. N° 9, General Winslow George Blanchard and Deacon Wright N° 10 Col^{o}. Waters Henry Vose and Benj^{a}. Fessenden N° 11, Deacon Brown Capt. Messenger and Amasa Davis Esq. N° 12 Also Voted that so soon as corrected lists are reported to [**193**] the Selectmen 1800 thereof shall be printed, making 150 for each ward.

The article in the warrant viz "to consider the expediency of appointing Agents with powers to choose Referrees in concurrence with the Legislature for the final adjustment of the claims of the State and town to the Old town house" was read and considered whereupon Voted that the Board of Selectmen viz Charles Bulfinch David Tilden Russell Sturgis Esq. Capt. Joseph Howard Mr. William Porter, William Sherburne Esq. Mr. John Tileston Mr. Eben^{r}. Oliver Mr. Jonathan Hunnewell together with William Cooper the Town Clerk be and hereby are appointed a Committee with full powers for the purposes mentioned in said warrant.

Then the meeting was dissolved.

At a meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil hall on Monday the eighth day of March Anno Domini 1802 at nine oClock AM —

Prayer was made by Rev^{d}. Mr. Topkins

Warrant for calling a meeting - - Read

Sundry laws to be read at this meeting were accordingly Read.

Joseph Russell Esq. was chosen Moderator by a hand vote.

The inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their votes for Town Clerk, and the same having been brought in and counted it appeared that

William Cooper Esq.

was chosen town Clerk for the year ensuing, and the oath of office was administered by Mr. Justice Bulfinch.

[**194.**] The inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their votes for nine Selectmen; the same being brought in and assorted it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen viz

Charles Bulfinch Esq	William Sherburne Esq
David Tilden Esq	Mr. John Tileston
Russell Sturgis Esq	Mr. Eben^{r}. Oliver
Capt. Joseph Howard	Mr. Jonathan Hunnewell
Mr. William Porter	

The meeting was then adjourned to three oclock PM.

The town met at three oclock P M according to adjournment

The votes being brought in for twelve Overseers of the poor, it appeared that

Edward Proctor Esq	Mr. Oliver Brewster
Mr. Edward Edes	Dr. Redford Webster
Henry Hill Esq	Thomas Perkins Esq
William Smith Esq	Stephen Codman Esq
William Phillips Esq	Mr. Samuel Snelling
Stephen Gorham Esq	Mr. Benj^{a}. Goddard

were chosen Overseers of the Poor for the year ensuing

On motion voted that the thanks of the town be given to the Honble. Jon^{a}. Loring Austin Esq for his good services as an overseer of the poor for eighteen years past

The inhabitants brought in their votes for twenty four fire wards when it appeared that

Thomas Melvill Esq	Mr. Joseph Head
Mr. Edward Edes	Thomas H Perkins Esq
Amasa Davis Esq	John Winslow Esq
[**195.**] Samuel Parkman Esq	Capt Joseph Howard
Russell Sturgis Esq.	Mr Benjamin Joy
Henry Jackson Esq	Stephen Codman Esq
William Scollay Esq	Andrew Cunningham Esq
Joseph May Esq	Mr. John Bray
Capt. Robert Gardner	Mr. Thomas Dennie
John May Esq	General Elliot
William Brown Esq	Mr. Gorham Parsons
Samuel Bradford Esq	Rufus G. Amory Esq

were chosen Firewards for the year ensuing.

Russell Sturgis Esq & Mr. Gorham Parsons declined serving as firewards, and were accordingly excused

Voted that in addition to the Selectmen, twelve persons shall now be chosen as a school committee, and the votes being brought in and counted it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen viz

Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq	William Smith Esq
Rev^{d}. Saml. West DD	Arnold Welles Junr. Esq
Dr. Thomas Welch	Edward Gray Esq
Rev^{d}. Joseph Eckley DD	David Greene Esq
Rev^{d}. J T Kirkland	Josiah Quincy Esq
Dr. Aaron Dexter	Rev^{d}. William Emmerson

[**196.**] The Rev^{d}. Samuel West declined being one of the School Committee

Voted that the above named Gentlemen who conjunctly with the Selectmen are termed the School committee be and hereby are directed to carry the new system of education which has been adopted by the town into operation, and said committee are also authorized and empowered conjunctly to manage and regulate the officers and the Government of the Schools, and in fine to execute all the power relating to the schools and School-masters, which the Selectmen of such Committees, were authorized by the laws of this Commonwealth or the votes of the town to exercise; any former vote of the Town to the contrary notwithstanding.

On motion voted that the choice of Town Treasurer, County Treasurer, collectors of Taxes and assessors be referred over to the adjournment, also voted that

Deacon Brown	Joseph Russell Esq
General Winslow	Thomas H Perkins Esq
Nathl. Fellowes Esq	Samuel Brown Esq
Amasa Davis Esq	Russell Sturgis Esq

be a committee to consider the propriety of choosing the same person as Treasurer of the Town and Treasurer of the County also the subject of the assessment and collection of taxes, and to devise such methods therein as in their judgment may be for the interest and advantage of the town, And said Committee are empowered to view the books of the assessors, Collectors and Town Treasurer; also to apply to the Court of sessions for liberty to view the books of the County Treasurer, to report at the adjournment.

On motion voted that

Honble. Judge Sullivan	Honble. H. G. Otis Esq
Honble. Benj^{a}. Austin Junr.	Edward Gray Esq

Benj^{a}. Russell Esq

be a Committee to consider what number of Constables may be necessary to be chosen and to report at the adjournment.

[197.] Messrs. Benjamin White Daniel Ingersoll Jr.
Moses Ayres William Darricott
were chosen Fence viewers for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Barney Connor
William Wheeler
were chosen Hogreeves for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Barney Connor
William Wheeler
were chosen Haywards, for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Jeffrey Richardson
Samuel Emmes
were chosen surveyors of Hemp for the year ensuing

Edward Tuckerman Esq.
Mr. Edward Edes
were chosen surveyors of wheat for the year ensuing.

Messrs. John Wells
William Cooper Hunneman
were chosen assaymasters for the year ensuing

Messrs. Roger Bartlett
Jonathan Cushing
were chosen cullers of dry fish for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Henry Purkett. Thomas Barber
Lemuel Gardner James Eunson
were chosen cullers of Hoops & Staves for the year ensuing.

The Selectmen
were chosen surveyors of Highways for the year ensuing.

Mr. Edward Rumney
was chosen inspector of stone lime for the year ensuing.

Votes for twelve surveyors of boards and shingles were brought in it appeared on assorting them that but ten were chosen

Viz. Messrs. Joshua Bentley William Clouston
Benj^a. White William Darricot
Benj^a. Page William Ellison
James Blake James Robins
[198.] John Cogswell Daniel Ingersol Junr.

The votes being brought in for a town advocate for the municipal court it appeared that John Phillips Esq. was chosen .

Voted that the consideration of all money matters be referred to next May meeting

Voted the Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq
Joseph Russell Esq
Saml. Brown Esq.
be and hereby are appointed a Committee to audit the accompts of the Town Treasurer, and also the accompts of the Selectmen Overseers of the Poor and Board of Health, and said Committee are also directed to report the sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present year.

The consideration relative to [the] Article in [the] warrant respecting the Treasurers issuing small notes or due bills referred to the Auditors of accounts to report at May meeting

The article in warrant relative to Cobb and Hartshorne as to exchange of land &c read whereupon

Voted that the Selectmen be and hereby [are] authorized and impowered to make such an agreement as shall appear to them to be for the advantage of the Town

The application of Isaac P. Davis that the Town would sell him a small piece of land &c was read, whereupon

Voted that the Selectmen be and hereby are authorized and impowered to make sale of the land in Pleasant Street, applied for by Mr. Davis, provided they can do it on such terms as they shall think for the interest of the town

The meeting was then adjourned to Wednesday the seventeenth day of March instant at ten oclock AM.

[**199.**] Wednesday March 17, 10 °Clock AM, the Town met according to adjournment.

The committee to consider what number of Constables may be necessary to be chosen having reported, and said report accepted by the town. the votes were accordingly brought in for eight Constables when it appeared that

Messrs. Elisha Copeland	Thomas Stevenson
Solomon Twist	Amos Lewis
Henry Lane	Samuel White
Moses Thayer	Jirah Holbrook

were chosen Constables for the year ensuing

The Committee appointed to consider the expediency of uniting the office of town treasurer and County Treasurer in one person, and to devise a more correct and economical mode for

assessing and collecting the tax of the town of Boston, having attended and considered the duties to which they are appointed beg leave to report,

That the office of Town Treasurer and the office of County Treasurer for the present year be vested in separate persons — second, That it be recommended to the Inhabitants to choose the Town Treasurer *Collector* for the town

third, That the Assessors of the Town of Boston shall for the present year consist of three persons to be paid by the town for their services hereafter named, and that they hold no other office of profit in the town of Boston, and

fourth, that in each ward the voters shall annually assemble on the first Wednesday of April and then choose and appoint two persons in each of their respective wards to assist the town assessors in taking a list of the polls, in estimating the value of their personal property, in appraising the value of all real estates in their own wards, to assist the Town assessors in taking a list of the Polls, in estimating the value of their personal property, in appraising the value of all real estates in their own wards; and the twenty four persons thus chosen in the respective wards shall meet & nominate for the approbation of the town three persons whom they shall judge best qualified to serve the town in the office of assessors [**200**] the ensuing year, and the two assistants chosen for each ward as their service, though important, will be of short duration are not to be allowed any pecuniary compensation.

fifth, that the Gentlemen Selectmen be requested to publish & notify the respective wards to choose and appoint those assistants to the town assessors when they choose their members of the Board of Health on the day above mentioned; and in case of death or resignation the Chairman be directed to call a meeting in either Ward.

sixth, That when the list and inventory is taken as before mentioned the Assessors shall then make a fair schedule in a book of all the real estate, its situation and appraised value, of the Polls rateable and not rateable, the returns or estimated value of personal property — And the assessors shall give notice that their books are open at their office for the free examination of all whom they have taxed, that the inhabitants in thirty days may receive or communicate information, or apply for alteration in the estimated value of their personal property in such manner as the Law directs. the inventory of polls and personal property shall be taken annually, and if alterations in the schedule of Real estates shall appear necessary it shall at the same time be attended to

seventh, When the tax is completed, the assessors shall fill up & distribute printed tax bills to all whom they have taxed, at the foot of which bills shall be printed the deductions for prompt payments as hereafter is provided

eighth, It shall be the duty of the Town Treasurer in his additional office as collector to receive the tax and discharge the Tax

bill of all persons who shall apply to him at his office and make payment — and for those who shall pay him within 30 days from the date of his tax bill, he shall deduct 5 per cent, for those who pay him within 60 days, 3 per cent, for those who pay him within 120 days, 2 per cent from the amount of their tax bills
ninth, The Collector shall distrain upon the property or person of those who are delinquent after the expiration of six months as the law directs
tenth, the Assessors and Collectors shall once in a year on or before the first day of March make return to the Selectmen of [**201**] all abatements, delinquents, and the amount of Tax not collected

And your Committee recommend that the town choose and appoint a Committee to apply to the General Court at their next session, and that the Representatives be the Committee to apply to the next General Court under the direction of the Selectmen for the purpose of making such law as may be required to carry the above votes into effect if any should be found necessary

The aforegoing report having been read and amended by Paragraphs, the question was then put — Whether said Report shall be accepted by the Town as thus amended when it passed in the affirmative almost unanimously

Adjourned to three oclock P M.—

At 3 °Clock P.M. Town met according to adjournm^{t}.

Samuel Clap Esq.
was chosen Town Treasurer for the year ensuing.
Samuel Clap Esq
was chosen Town Collector for the year ensuing.

Votes were brought in for two Surveyors of Boards twice and there being a [no?] choice this business was referred to the adjournment.

Votes for a Treasurer for the County of Suffolk were brought in and counted by the Moderator and Town Clerk, when it appeared that the whole number was 279 all of which for Ebenezer Seaver Esq; a discreet and suitable person, and a Freeholder and Resident in said County.

Messrs Jonathan Hunnewell
Daniel Messenger
were chosen Firewards for the year ensuing.

Voted that the thanks of the town be given to Nathaniel Fellows & Russell Sturgis Esqrs. and Mr. Gorham Parsons for their good services as Firewards a number of years past

The further consideration of the report of the Committee relative to the Town Treasurer issuing small notes &c was referred to May meeting

Adjourned to Wednesday the 21 April next, at ten oclock AM. —

[**202.**] At a meeting of the male inhabitants of the town of Boston of twenty one years of age and upwards qualified as the constitution prescribes and legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the fifth day of April Anno Domini 1802, 11 ° Clock AM

Prayer was made by the Rev^{d}. Mr. Haskell

Warrant for calling the meeting - - - Read

Paragraph of the Constitution or frame of Government relative to the choice of Governor and L^{t}. Governor and Senators Read

It was then declared by the Selectmen that no vote should be received but such as were unfolded, and that they propose the polls should be closed at three oclock PM the votes to be received at the Table and the bells to begin tolling at half past two oclock

The selectmen acquainted the town with the method they had adopted to carry the new law into effect

[**203.**] Persons voted for as Governor with the number of votes for each person Viz

	Votes
Honble. Caleb Strong Esq. - - - - - - - -	2372
Honble. Elbridge Gerry Esq. - - - - - - - -	1498

Persons voted for as L^{t}. Governor with the number of votes for each person Viz

Honble. William Heath Esq. - - - - - - - -	1495
Honble. Edward H Robbins Esq. - - - - - -	2369

Persons voted for for Senators for the County of Suffolk, with the number of votes for each person Viz^{t}.

Honble. Oliver Wendall Esq. - - - - - - - -	2375
Honble. William Tudor Esq. - - - - - - - -	2373
Honble. James Bowdoin Esq. - - - - - - -	1497
Honble. Benj^{a}. Austin Junr. Esq. - - - - - -	1498
Honble. Peleg Coffin Esq. - - - - - - - - -	2375
John Q. Adams Esq. - - - - - - - - -	2373
Nathl. Fellowes Esq. - - - - - - - -	1495
David Tilden Esq. - - - - - - - - -	1495

Attested Copies of Persons voted for as Governor L^{t}. Governor and Senators for the County of Suffolk were sealed up in Town meeting, after the votes had been declared to the Town attested copies of them were that evening delivered to the Secretary of this Commonwealth by the Town Clerk, superscribed as follows

For John Avery Esq
Sec^{y}. of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The number of votes of the Town of Boston for Governor L^{t}. Governor and four Senators for the County of Suffolk certified within and sealed up in town meeting

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[**204.**] Wednesday April 21. 1802 at 10 oclock AM. the Town met according to adjournment

Rev^{d}. Mr. West having declined serving as one of the School Committee, it was moved and voted that the thanks of the Town be and are hereby given to Rev^{d}. Doct Samuel West for his good services as one of the School committee for a number of years past

Votes being brought in for two Surveyors of boards and shingles it appeared that

Mess John Butterfield
Samuel Treat

were chosen surveyors of Boards and shingles for the year ensuing

The votes being brought in for one of the School Committee in the room of Doct West it appeared that

Rev^{d}. John [S] Popkins

was chosen in the room of Dr. West who has resigned

The committee of the several Wards relative to assistants for the assessors — Reported that

Agreeable to a vote of the Town, the respective Wards met on the first Wednesday of April and chose two assistant assessors for each Ward who being notified by the Chairman of the Selectmen, met at Faneuil Hall on Saturday the 17th. and by adjournment on Monday the nineteenth of April for the purpose of choosing three persons to be nominated to the town as assessors when Messrs. Josiah Snelling Samuel Dunn and Benjamin Sumner were unanimously chosen,

present Mess John W Quincy	Ward N°. 1
Jacob Holland	2

	Edward Proctor Edward Edes	3
	William Walter Benj^{a}. Smith	4
	T Tid W Boardman	6
	R Webster N Webb	5
	C Loring S W Sumner	7
	J Brazier E Morse	8
[205.]	Nathl. Fellowes D. D. Rogers	Ward N°. 9
	J Winslow T Wright	10
	Jon^{a}. Hunnewell	11
	W Brown N Bradley	12

Nathl. Fellowes Chairm^{n}.
William Walter Sec^{y}

The foregoing Report having been accepted by the town and the votes for three assessors having been brought in & assorted it appeared that

Messrs. Josiah Snelling
Samuel Dunn
Benj^{a}. Sumner

were chosen Assessors for the year ensuing

Voted that all matters which shall remain unfinished at this meeting be referred over to the May meeting.

Voted unanimously that the thanks of the town be given to Joseph Russell Esq. the Moderator of this meeting for the dispatch given the business that came before them

Then the meeting was dissolved.

[206.] At a meeting of the male Inhabitants of the town of Boston of twenty one years of age and upwards qualified as the Constitution prescribes and legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the twelfth day of May Anno Domini 1802 11 ^{o}Clock AM

Prayer by Reverend Mr. Jno Murray

Warrant for calling the meeting was Read

That part of the Constitution or frame of government which relates to the choice of Representatives was Read

The town having determined by a vote to choose seven persons to Represent them in the General Court of Massachusetts to be holden in the State house in Boston on the last Wednesday of May current agreeable to the Constitution or frame of Government for Massachusetts; the inhabitants were directed by the Selectmen to withdraw and bring in their votes for seven Representatives and then it was declared by the Selectmen that no vote would be received but such as are unfolded, and until the names of the persons entering shall be marked on the list by the Gentlemen who assist for that purpose from the several wards, and that they propose the polls shall be closed at half past two o'clock, the bells to begin tolling at two oclock and to continue until half an hour is expired

The votes being brought in for seven Representatives, the whole number of the same were found to be 2408, and upon assorting them it appeared that the following seven Gentlemen had obtained a majority of the votes Viz

Honble. John C Jones Esq - - - - - - - -	1386
Honble. Harrison Gray Otis Esq. - - - - - -	1378
Joseph Russell Esq. - - - - - - - - - - -	1378
Samuel Parkman Esq - - - - - - - - - - -	1383
John Lowell Esq. - - - - - - - - - - - -	1369
Deacon William Brown - - - - - - - - - -	1382
Jon^{a}. Hunnewell Esq. - - - - - - - - - -	1374

[207.] The votes given for such as did not obtain were for

Charles Jarvis Esq - - - - - - - - Votes	1030
James Bowdoin Esq - - - - - - - -	1022
Benj^{a}. Austin Junr. Esq. - - - - - - -	1023
David Tilden Esq - - - - - - - - -	1020
Russell Sturgis Esq - - - - - - - -	1024
Nathaniel Fellowes Esq - - - - - - -	1018
Samuel Brown Esq - - - - - - - - -	1036

The choice of Representatives being over and declared by the Selectmen, the meeting was dissolved

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At a meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil hall on Tuesday the thirteenth day of May Anno Domini 1802, 10 °Clock A.M.

Prayer by Rev^{d}. Mr. Murray

Warrant for calling the meeting was Read

The Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq.
was chosen Moderator of this meeting by a hand vote

Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq
William Tudor Esq
John Winslow Esq
William Brown Esq
Mr. Josiah Knapp
Mr. Joshua Davis Junr.
are added to the Selectmen who conjunctly are to manage and lease the lands on the neck

The article in the warrant viz To consider & adopt such methods as may be proper to investigate the Towns claims to the Flatts and Docks, also appoint Agents with authority to settle and compromise any difference and to prosecute & [**208**] defend suits on the towns claims to final judgment & execution and to do any thing which may be thought proper to be done at said meeting on that subject was read, whereupon

Voted that the above Committee be added to the Selectmen for the purpose aforesaid to report at the adjournment and Thomas Davis, Samuel Brown and John Andrews, Esquires are added to said Committee

The article in the warrant viz That the town would take into consideration the propriety of an application to the Legislature for an alteration in the law respecting the choice of Constables was read whereupon

Voted that this matter be referred to the Gentlemen who represent this town in the General Court who are desired to act thereon as they may think proper

The Committee to audit Treasurers accounts &c
Report

That the Selectmens drafts amount to - - - -		$42557.26
Overseers of the poor - - - - - - -		13946.98
Board of Health from May 1801 to May 1802 - -		3248.49
Total - - - -		59752.73
The Treasurer charges		
p^d^. A Tukesbury for repairs & sundries - -		222.12
also amount of abatements, viz		
To Benj Henderson - - -	942.33	
Thos Bailey - - - -	2108. 4	
Benj Jepson - - - -	641.95	
C Marshall - - - -	1279.18	
	4971.50	

the above completes the abatement of
taxes for 1800 by the assessors certified
March 15 1802

The treasurer charges money paid for interest - - - - - - - - - - - -	2403.25	
The treasurer charges himself with new a/c balce. - - - - - - - - - - - -	23231.36.5	
	90580.96.5	
The treasurer gives Cr by the balce. of old acco. - - - - - - - - - - - - April 13 1801	21601.90.2	
By sundries received of William Gooch in 8 paymts. - - - - - - - - - - - -	407.15	
By William Gooch's note - - - - - -	372.63	
		780.8
By the Board of health - - - - - - -	234.62	
By Genl. Winslow for 2 fines to Board health - - - - - - - - - - - - -	400.	
		634.62
By 1 fine - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		1.66
[**209.**] By S Bourne Esq. 2 fines - - - - - - -		2.62
By Mungo Mackay Esq. subscription money for Cambridge Street - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		100.
By O Hartshorne for lands sold him - - - - - - -		1070.
By George Trott for hay engine - - - - - - - -		194.58
By Cloughs note - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		13.33.3
By sundry rents - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		749.
By A Tukesbury for rent - - - - - - - - - - -		133.33
By the States Treasurer 2 semi annual payments for States poor in Almshouse - - - - - - -		5299.84
By the tax voted for 1801 - - - - - - - - - -		60.000.00
		90580.96.5

The treasurer also exhibits a trial balance Acco. April 1802

And charges Town powder - - - - - - - - - -		1041.94
Notes receivable - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		372.63
Andrew Tukesbury - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		127.51
Estate of James Thompson - - - - - - - - - -		645.78
Cash -		366.33
Benja. Henderson - - - - - - - - -	10216.22	
Christopher Marshall - - - - - - -	2430.60	
ditto - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	13772. 1	
Benja. Jepson - - - - - - - - - - -	17349.13	
Thomas Bailey - - - - - - - - - -	14327.72	
		58095.68
		60649.87.5

And credits for notes payable - - - -	30948.80	
Estate of John Gray - - - - - - - - -	107.	
Samuel Clap - - - - - - - - - - -	491.84	
Town of Boston - - - - - - - - - -	23231.36.5	
Overseers drafts - - - - - - - - - -	66.44	
Selectmens drafts - - - - - - - - - -	5804.43	
		60649.87.5

Amount of notes payable and to whom viz		
Ezekiel Price April 1. 1790 - - - - -	220.15.4	
B Barker March 1. 1792 - - - - - -	463. 5	
Elizabeth Partridge - - - - - - - - -	231.12.6	
Selectmen of Boston - - - - - - - - -	369.	
Benja Waldo June 29 - - - - - - - -	800.	
	£2084.12.10	
equal to - - -		6948.80
Borrowed of the Union Bank for Almshouse - - -		20000.
for Board health - -		2000.
for oil for Lamps - -		2000
		$30948.80

[**210.**] The particulars of the foregoing statements are in the several accounts herein annexed to which a reference may be had all which appears to be well vouched and right cast. The Committee after taking many circumstances of the town into consideration recommend a tax to be laid for 70,000 dollars all which is respectfully submitted

Thomas Dawes
Joseph Russell
Samuel Brown

The foregoing report having been read and considered the same was accepted whereupon it was

Voted that the sum of 70,000 dollars be raised by a tax to be assessed on the Polls and estates of the inhabitants of the Town to defray the expenses of the current year

Voted that the Town Treasurer and collectors of taxes Salaries, and the compensations to the assessors now chosen be referred for consideration to the assistants of the town assessors to report at the adjournment

Voted that the sum of Six hundred and sixty six dollars be allowed and paid unto William Cooper for his services as Town Clerk the present year the same to be paid him quarterly as it shall become due, and to commence the first day of March last

Voted that the sum of three hundred dollars be allowed to John Phillips Esq. for his services as Town Advocate the year ensuing

Voted to print the schedule of Town expenses the last year

The report of the Committee relative to Town Treasurers being impowered to issue small notes &c, again read and debated and the question being put, Whether the Report shall be accepted," passed in the negative

Adjourned to Monday the twenty fourth day of May instant at three oclock. PM

Monday May 24 1802. the Town met according to Adjournment

The Committee to investigate the Towns claim to the docks and Flatts, Report,

That they have fully considered the subject as it respects the flatts between the South Battery Sconce and Scarlets Wharfe [**211.**] formerly so called; have examined the earliest record & heard council on the subject. The Committee find that the rights of the abutters were limited by a circular line drawn in the year 1673 according to an agreement signed by them and by the Selectmen —The Committee have examined the plan of the circular line which was taken in 1708, and are of opinion that this line should be considered as the boundaries of the rights of the abutters on the sea or flatts eastward

By order of the Committee
Charles Bulfinch Chairman

The foregoing report having been read and debated was accepted by the town

A motion being made for a reconsideration did not obtain

The committee appointed to consider a compensation for the services of the assessors and Town Treasurer, and the Collector of Taxes — Report

That they are of opinion that Six hundred & fifty dollars be allowed to each of the assessors, as a compensation for their services, and that one thousand dollars p^r Annum for the Town Treasurer and Collector of Taxes as a compensation for his services

Nathaniel Fellowes p^r Order.

The foregoing Report having been accepted it was thereupon voted.

That the sum of One thousand dollars be allowed and paid unto Samuel Clap Esq. as a compensation for his services as Town Treasurer and Collector of taxes the present year, the same to be paid him quarterly as it shall become due and to commence the first day of March last, also

Voted that Six hundred and fifty dollars be allowed and paid to each the assessors for their respective services the present year, the same to be paid them quarterly as it shall become due, and to commence the first day of March last

Voted that the town Treasurer be authorized and empowered to borrow on lawful interest for the use of the Board of Health as there may be occasion a sum not exceeding two thousand dollars

Voted that the Town Treasurer be authorized and empowered to borrow on lawful interest for the use of the Selectmen as there may be occasion a sum not exceeding two thousand dollars

[212.] Voted that the Town Treasurer be authorized and empowered to borrow on lawful interest a sum not exceeding four thousand dollars for the use of the Selectmen for the special purpose of defraying the sums which have been awarded to those persons whose lands and buildings in Fish Street have been taken from them since the late fire to enlarge and improve said street.

Voted that the thanks of the Town be given to the Honble Thomas Dawes Esq. the Moderator of this meeting for his good services in dispatching the business of the meeting

Then the meeting was dissolved

At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public Town meeting, assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 5th. day of July Anno Domini 1802 at 9 oclock AM —

Warrant for calling the meeting - - Read

William Cooper Esq. was chosen Moderator.

The Committee appointed last year to make choice of a Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the Anniversary of Independence

Reported, that they had made choice of the Revd William Emmerson who has accepted the appointment

On motion adjourned to Old South Church when agreeable to the information of the Selectmen

AN ORATION

to commemorate the Independence of the United States was delivered by the Rev^{d}. William Emmerson at the old South Church

On motion voted that the Selectmen be a Committee to wait on the Rev^{d}. William Emmerson, and in the name of the Town to thank him for the elegant and spirited Oration this day [**213**] delivered by him at the request of the town upon the anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America; in which according to the Institution of the Town he considered the feelings manners and principles which led to that great national event; and to request of him a copy thereof for the Press

On motion voted that the Gentlemen Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to some one able & learned Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the fourth day of July A D 1803, that day being the anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America wherein the Orator is to consider the feelings, manners and principles which led to this great national event; as well as the important and happy effects, whether general or domestic, which have already or will forever flow from that auspicious epoch

Then the meeting was dissolved.

At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil hall on Wednesday the fourteenth day of July A^{o} D^{i}. 1802, 3 ^{o}Clock P M

Warrant for calling a meeting - - Read

Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq.
was chosen Moderator

The petition of a number of the Physicians of the Town, and of the Board of Health, that the town would take into consideration the expediency of granting permission (under direction of the Board of Health) to inoculate twenty persons with the small pox, having previously had the Kine pox, in order to ascertain beyond all reasonable doubt, the utility of that disorder as a preventative against the small pox, and also that they be empowered to take up some proper house as a hospital wherein to make these experiments — was read and after considerable debate the question was put and did not obtain, It was then moved & Voted that the Prayer of this Petition be so far complied with that [**214**] the Board of health have full power to make the experiment at

any place that they may judge convenient provided that it be not within the town

Then the meeting was dissolved

At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified and legally warned in public Town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the twenty seventh day of September Anno Domini 1802, 10 oclock AM

Warrant for calling the meeting Read

Ebenezer Hancock Esq.
was chosen Moderator by a hand vote —

Samuel Clap Esq. letter of Resignation as Town Treasurer and Collector of Taxes for the present year was read and accepted, as by copy on file,

On motion voted that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to Samuel Clap Esq. for his good and faithful services as Town Treasurer for a number of years past.

The inhabitants were directed to bring in their votes for Town Treasurer and Collector of taxes for the remainder of the year, and the same being brought in and counted it appeared that
Ebenezer Storer Esq.
was chosen Town Treasurer and Collector by a very large majority.

On motion voted that the Auditors of the Towns accounts chosen last March be desired to examine the accounts of the late Treasurer, and to balance his books

The article in the warrant relative to the proceedings of the trustees for managing the land on the neck, was read, whereupon

Voted, that the Town do now ratify and confirm the proceedings of the Trustees for managing their land on the Neck and authorize them or the major part of them as may be annually chosen for that purpose to execute in behalf of the Town, such [215] leases thereof or of any parcel or parts thereof which such reservations of Rents and Rights of pre entry and limitations, covenants of renewal or any other covenants; as in the opinion of the said Trustees, or the major part of them shall be most for the interest of the Town; which authority shall continue until revoked by the Town, Provided that in all cases, the leases of the said lands and any part or parcel of them shall be sold at public auction

The article in the warrant containing the request of Capt. John Brazer was read, whereupon

Voted that his request be referred to the Selectmen for consideration to report thereon at the next general Town meeting that may be called

The article in the warrant, viz, The request of Jona. Ellis that means may be adopted to make the necessary abatement in his Tax for 1801 was read whereupon

Voted that the present Assessors together with two of the Assessors of the last year viz Ebenr. Seaver & Jedediah Parker be a Committee with authority to make the necessary abatements on the outstanding Taxes prior to 1802, and to close the old Assessors books to that period

Voted that the thanks of the Town be and hereby are given unto Ebenezer Hancock Esq. for his good services as Moderator

Then the meeting was dissolved.

[**216.**] At a meeting of the Freeholders & other inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil hall on the first day of Novr. Anno Domini 1802, 11 °Clock A M.

Prayer was made by Revd. Mr. Gardner

Warrant for calling the meeting - - Read

Paragraph of the Resolve of the General Court for the choice of one Representative for the Suffolk district of this Commonwealth in the Congress of the United States &c was Read

It was then declared by the Selectmen that the poll would be closed at two oclock P M the bell to begin tolling at half past one oclock —

Persons voted for as a Representative for the Suffolk district for this Commonwealth in the next Congress of the United States Viz

Honble. William Eustis Esqr. Fourteen hundred and thirty votes

Honble. John Q. Adams Esqr. Fourteen hundred and ninety six and the same was declared in Town meeting.

An attested Copy of the persons voted for as above was sealed up in Town meeting after a declaration had been made by the

Selectmen of the persons voted for as a Representative for the Suffolk district in this Commonwealth in the Congress of the United States — and the same was put into the hands of the Sheriff of this County, to be delivered to the Secretary of this Commonwealth, superscribed as follows vizt.

For John Avery Esq.
Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Then the meeting was dissolved.

[**217.**] At a meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall Decr. 23^{d}. AD 1802, 10 °Clock A M. —

Warrant for calling a meeting Read

Joseph Russell Esq.
was chosen moderator by a hand Vote.

The article in the warrant viz. To consider the expediency of appointing Agents with full power to make a final adjustment by sale, purchase or otherwise with the Legislature relative to the Old Town house, Or to take such other measures respecting the same as may be most for the interest & honor of the Town, was read & considered, whereupon

Voted, That the Honble. the Senators of the County of Suffolk, and the Representatives of the Town of Boston be authorized with full power to make any contract on the part of the Town with the General Court of this Commonwealth, and the Counties of Suffolk & Norfolk relative to the Old Town House, by sale purchase or otherwise, and on such terms and conditions as to them may appear most for the interest and honor of the Town

The article in the warrant relative to a further allowance to the Assessors, Town Treasurer and Collector &c was read and after debate the further consideration thereof was referred over to March meeting.

The request of Russell Sturgis Esq. that the Town would lease to him Deer island for the purpose of erecting Salt works having been read and considered

Voted that the Selectmen be and are hereby authorized and impowered to lease Deer Island in part or in whole for such sum and such a term not exceeding twelve years as they may judge proper.

Matters unfinished referred to next Town meeting.

On motion voted that the Thanks of the town be given to Joseph Russell Esq for his good services as Moderator of this meeting.

Then the meeting was Dissolved.

1803.

[**218.**] At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the town of Boston at Faneuil Hall on Friday 21 January AD 1803. 10 °Clock AM.

Warrant for calling meeting Read

Joseph Russell Esq
chosen Moderator of this meeting by a hand vote.

The article in the warrant relative to the Security of the Town from fires, together with the petition of a number of the Inhabitants for calling the meeting read and considered, whereupon

Voted unanimously that twelve citizens be chosen one from each ward who with the Selectmen shall until the first day of May next have full power and authority to adopt such measures as to them may appear necessary and expedient the better to secure the town against damage from fire; and the inhabitants hereby pledge themselves to the Committee and to each other that they will promptly and without delay conform to the rules and regulations which said Committee may from time to time propose to enable them to effect the object of their appointment — and the following Gentlemen were chosen as a Committee from the several Wards agreeable to the above vote Viz.

	Capt Bray for Ward	N° 1
	Col° Gardner "	2
	Thomas Lewis "	3
	Josiah Vose "	4
Mr.	Mitchell Lincoln "	5
	Isaiah Doane Esq "	6
	James Prince Esq "	7
Mr.	David Bradlee "	8
	Arnold Welles Esq "	9
	General Winslow "	10
	Capt Daniel Messenger	11
	Amasa Davis Esq	12

also voted that in case of any vacancy the said Committee are to fill up said vacancy

Voted that the Representatives of the Town be directed to use their endeavours in the General Court to obtain such a revision

and alteration of the law regulating buildings [**219**] That all buildings exceeding ten feet in height shall be built wholly of brick or stone except such parts as may be necessary for doors or windows, and covered with Slate Tile or other non-combustible composition

On motion voted that as the Town have witnessed the caution, prudence and discretion of the Firewards in the late distressing scenes which have fallen on this metropolis — the Thanks of the town be given to them — and that they may be assured that the town will afford them all the support necessary to such important usefulness

Voted that the Thanks of the Town be given to Joseph Russell Esq for his good services as Moderator

Then the meeting was dissolved.

At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 26 January AD 1803, 10 oclock AM

Warrant for calling the meeting Read.

Joseph Russell Esq. was chosen Moderator by a hand vote.

The petitions relative to a new Bridge, and a permanent wharf were read and after debate had thereon

Voted that the Representatives of this Town be instructed to request of the Legislature now in session a reference of the application now before them for a bridge or wharves from South end to Dorchester point until the next session of the Legislature, also

Voted that	Mr. Josi^{a}. Snelling	Ward	N° 1
	Capt. Rhodes	"	N° 2
	Col^{o}. John May	"	3
	William Mackay	"	4
	Thomas Edwards Esq		5
	Honble. John C Jones		6
	Honble. Benj^{a}. Austin Jr		7
	Capt. John Brazier		8
	Capt. Nathl. Fellowes		9
	Joseph Russell Esq.		10
	Genl. Winslow		11
	Josiah Knapp		12

[**220.**] be a Committee to consider the subject of the Bridge proposed from the South part of the town to Dorchester and also

the petition of Edward Tuckerman and others for liberty to build a wharf to the Channel — and to report their opinion to the Town at the next March meeting

Then the meeting was dissolved.

At a meeting of the Freeholders and other inhabitants of the town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 31 Jany A° D^i 1803.

Warrant for calling the meeting Read

The article in the warrant was Read, as well as the petition for calling the meeting and after some debate a motion was made and carried that this meeting be adjourned to the Old South Church

The consideration of the article was then taken up and after large debate the Question was put viz whether the vote passed the 21st. instant viz "That all buildings exceeding ten feet in hight shall be built wholly of brick or Stone except such parts as may be necessary for doors and windows, and covered with slate tile or other non-combustible composition" shall be reconsidered, it passed in the negative by a considerable majority — It was then moved and voted that our Representatives be instructed to procure an exemption in the bill now before the Legislature for such persons as before the said twenty first day of January had contracted or provided materials for erecting such buildings.

Then the meeting was dissolved

[**221.**] At a meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public Town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the second day of March AD 1803. at 10 °Clock AM —

Warrant for calling a meeting was Read

David Tilden Esq was chosen Moderator by a hand vote

The article in the warrant relative to the list of qualified voters was read whereupon

Voted that the following Gentlemen be a Committee to receive correct and complete the list of qualified voters in their respective wards, who are to report the same to the Selectmen, Viz

Josiah Snelling Samuel Lord & Amos Binney - -	Ward N°	1
Thomas Lewis Col°. Edward Proctor John May -	"	3
Josiah Vose, Capt. Benj^{a}. Smith Darius Boardman -	"	4
Jacob Rhoades, Col°. Gardner John Truman - -	"	2
Mitchel Lincoln, John W. Folsom Samuel Sturgis -	"	5
Isaiah Doane, Jacob Eustis, Samuel Snelling - -	"	6
Capt. Prince, Saml. Parkman, B Austin, Samuel Sumner Josiah Bacon S Shaw	"	7
Capt. Brazier, Dr. Nathl. Noyes David Bradlee -	"	8
Arnold Welles Esq. Nathl. Fellows Esq Edm^{d}. Bowman - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	"	9
Genl. Winslow, G Blanchard, Samuel Hewes - -	"	10
Samuel Sweet, Genl. Donnison, Henry Vose - -	"	11
W Brown Esq Capt. Wheeler, Col°. Davis Henry Bass, Uriah Cotton, Josiah Knapp	"	12

A list of names for Jury Boxes was laid before the Town, and being approved, the Gentlemen Selectmen were appointed a Committee for the purpose of regulating the Jury Boxes.

Voted that the thanks of the Town be given to David Tilden Esq. for his good services as Moderator.

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

[**222.**] At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 14th day of March Anno Domini 1803 9 °Clock AM.

Prayer was made by Rev^{d}. Doctr. Howard.

Warrant for calling the meeting was Read.

Sunday laws to be read at this meeting were accordingly read

Joseph Russell Esq.

was chosen Moderator by a hand vote

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their votes for a Town Clerk and the same having been brought in & counted it appeared that William Cooper Esq. was chosen Town Clerk for the year ensuing, and the oath of office was administered to him by Mr. Justice Bulfinch

The Inhabitants were directed to bring in their votes for nine Selectmen and the same being brought in counted and assorted it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen Viz^{t}.

Charles Bulfinch Esq	Mr. William Porter
David Tilden Esq	Wm Sherburne Esq
Russell Sturgis Esq	Mr. John Tileston
Capt. Joseph Howard	Mr. Ebenr. Oliver

Jon^{a}. Hunnewell Esq

[223.] The votes being brought in for twelve overseers of the poor it appeared that

Edward Proctor Esq	Mr. Oliver Brewster
Mr. Edward Edes	Dr. Redford Webster
Henry Hill Esq	Thomas Perkins Esq
William Smith Esq	Stephen Codman Esq
William Phillips Esq	Mr. Samuel Snelling
Stephen Gorham Esq	Mr. Benj^{a}. Goddard

were chosen Overseers of the Poor for the Year ensuing.

The Inhabitants brought in their votes for twenty four Fire-wards, when it appeared that

Thomas Melvill		Thomas H Perkins Esq
Mr. Edward Edes		John Winslow Esq
Amasa Davis Esq	[224.]	Capt Joseph Howard
Samuel Parkman Esq		Mr Benjamin Joy
Henry Jackson Esq		Stephen Codman Esq
William Scollay Esq		Andrew Cunningham Esq
Joseph May Esq		Mr. John Bray
Capt. Robt Gardner		Mr. Thomas Dennie
John May Esq		General Elliot
William Brown Esq		Rufus G. Amory Esq.
Samuel Bradford Esq		Jonathan Hunnewell Esq.
Joseph Head		Capt Daniel Messinger

were chosen Fire wards for the year ensuing

Voted, that in addition to the Selectmen twelve persons be now chosen a School Committee and the votes being brought in it appeared that the following gentlemen were chosen viz

Hon Thomas Dawes Esq
Dr Thomas Walsh
Rev Joseph Eckley D D
Rev Jno T Kirkland
Dr. Aaron Dexter
William Smith Esq.
Arnold Welles Jr Esq
Edward Gray Esq
David Greene Esq
Josiah Quincy Esq
Revd William Emmerson
John Phillips Esq.

Voted that the above named Gentlemen who conjunctly with

the Selectmen are termed the School committee be and hereby are directed to carry the new system of education which has been adopted by the town into operation; and said Committee are also authorized and empowered conjunctly [**225**] to manage and regulate the Officers and the government of the Schools, and in future to regulate all the power relative to the Schools and Schoolmasters which the Selectmen or such Committees were authorized by the laws of this Commonwealth or the Town to exercise, any former votes of the Town to the contrary notwithstanding

Votes were brought in for a Town Treasurer and collector, but there being no choice, On motion four o clock P M was assigned for the choice.

Mr. Benjamin White
Moses Ayres
Daniel Ingersol Junr.
William Darricott
were chosen Fence viewers for the year ensuing

Votes for a Treasurer for the County of Suffolk brought in and counted by the Moderator & Town Clerk when it appeared that the whole number [was] 272, all of which were for Ebenezer Seaver Esq a discreet suitable person and a Freeholder and Resident in said County.

The Votes being brought in for a Town Advocate for the Municipal Court it appeared that John Phillips Esq. was chosen

Ajourned to 3 °Clock, P M —

Town met at three Oclock P M —

Messrs. Barney Conner
William Wheeler
were chosen Hogreeves for the year ensuing

Messrs. Barney Conner
William Wheeler
were chosen Haywards for the year ensuing

[**226.**] Messrs. Jeffry Richardson
Samuel Emmons
were chosen Surveyors of Hemp for the year ensuing

Messrs. Edward Tuckerman
Edward Edes
were chosen Surveyors of Wheat for the year ensuing

Messrs. John Welles
William C Hunneman
were chosen Assay masters for the year ensuing

Messr. Roger Bartlett
Jonathan Cushing
were chosen Cullers of Dry Fish for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Henry Purkett
Lemuel Gardner
Thomas Barber
James Eunson
were chosen Cullers of hoops & staves for the year ensuing

The Selectmen
were chosen surveyors of the highways for the year ensuing

Mr. Edward Rumney, was chosen Inspector of Stone Lime for the year ensuing

Messrs. Joshua Bentley
James Blake
William Clouston
John Butterfield
Benjamin White
John Cogswell
William Darricott
Benjamin Page
William Ellison
[227.] Daniel Ingersoll
Samuel Treat
Thomas Stutson
were chosen Surveyors of Boards for the year ensuing.

Voted that the Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq
Joseph Russell Esq
Samuel Brown Esq
be and hereby are appointed a Committee to audit the accounts of the late Town Treasurer and also the acco^ts^. of the Selectmen Overseers of the poor & Board of health and said Committee are also directed to report the sums necessary to be raised for the services of the present year

Votes for a Town Treasurer & Collector of Taxes were again brought in and upon counting and assorting the same it appeared that, Mr. Benjamin Sumner was chosen.

The petition of the Wood wharfingers "That the Law which restricts them from carrying more than four feet of Wood in their Carts, may be repealed" was read, and after debate had thereon it was moved & voted that

Genl. Winslow
Chas^s^. Paine Esq
Jon^a^. Hunnewell Esq

be a committee to confer with the Wharfingers and report thereon at the adjournment

The application of a number of the Inhabitants of West Boston was read, Whereupon Voted that the consideration of their request that a new writing and grammar school may be estab lished in that part of the Town be referred to the School Committee, they to report thereon at the adjournment

On motion Voted that this meeting be adjourned to Wednesday 23d. inst. 10 °Clock AM then to meet in this place.

Adjourned accordingly.

[228.] The Town met according to adjournment March 23d. 1803, at 10 °Clock AM. —

Voted that the consideration of all money matters be referred over to next May meeting

The School Committee on the petition of a number of the Inhabitants of West Boston for an additional school — Report that having considered the petition of the Inhabitants of West Boston for an additional school they unanimously recommend that a reading and writing School should be established in some convenient place at West Boston, so situated however as that it shall likewise accommodate those who live near the centre of the town" which Report having been read and considered it was voted that the same be accepted — Also

Voted that the said Committee be empower'd to procure by purchase or otherwise a suitable piece of land whereon to erect a School house as proposed by the Inhabitants of Ward N° 7 and that they proceed to build said school house and to establish a writing and English grammar school with all convenient speed.

The Committee on the petition of the Woodwharfingers Report, That having attended to that duty they are of opinion that the clause of the By-law complained of by the Petitioners operates a hardship upon them and that the same ought to be so altered as that the Woodwharfingers & Truckmen should be at liberty to carry on their carts or Trucks at any season of the year a load not exceeding six feet of Cord or Fire wood, reserving to the Selectmen the power of restricting them to carry not more than four feet of green wood at one time during such [229] part of the Spring of every year as the Selectmen shall deem necessary for the preservation of the Streets lanes and alleys of the town and shall limit, and give notice thereof in any public newspaper printed in the town of Boston, they the said Selectmen to have power to vary, enlarge, or diminish such restriction as they may judge proper

John Winslow, Chairman.

The above Report having been read & considered the question was put viz whether this report shall be accepted; passed in the affirmative

Voted that all matters which shall remain unfinished at this meeting be referred over for consideration to May meeting

Voted that the thanks of this meeting be given to Joseph Russell Esq. for his good services as Moderator.

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of twenty one years of age & upwards qualified as the Constitution prescribes and legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil hall on Wednesday the fourth day of April Anno Domini 1803 11 oClock AM —

Prayer made by Rev^{d}. Samuel Stilman DD

Warrant for calling the meeting Read.

[**230.**] Paragraph of the Constitution or frame of Government relative to the choice of Governor & L^{t}. Governor & Senators Read

It was then declared by the Selectmen that no vote should be received but such as were unfolded and that they propose the poll should be closed at three o'clock PM. the votes to be received at the table and the bells to begin ringing ½ past two o'clock and to continue for half an hour

Persons voted for as Governor with the number of votes for each person viz

	Votes
His Excellency Caleb Strong Esq	1864
Honorable Elbridge Gerry Esq.	881

Persons voted for as Lieu. Governor with the number of votes for each person Viz

Honble. Edward Hutchinson Robinson Esq	1661
Honble. James Bowdoin Esq.	1093

Persons voted for as Senators for the County of Suffolk with the number of votes for each person viz

	Votes
Honble. Oliver Wendell Esq	2735
Honble. William Tudor Esq	1680
Honble. John C Jones Esq	1698

	John Codman Esq	1679
Honble.	Jonathan Mason Esq	1653
Honble.	James Bowdoin Esq	1036
Honble.	Benjamin Austin Esq	1076
	David Tilden Esq	1078
	Nathaniel Fellowes Esq	1056
	Samuel Brown Esq	5
	William Smith Esq	28
	Charles Jarvis Esq	19
	Theophilus Parsons Esq	12

[**231.**] Attested Copies of the persons voted for as Governor Lt Governor & Senators of the County of Suffolk sealed up in Town meeting (after the votes had been declared) and transmitted to the Secretary of the Commonwealth superscribed as follows

For John Avery Esq
Sec^{y} of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The number of Votes of the Town of Boston for Governor, Lieu^{t}. Governor & five Senators for the County of Suffolk certified within & sealed up in town meeting.

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

[**232.**] At a meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the town of Boston of twenty one years of age and upwards qualified as the Constitution prescribes & legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the eleventh day of May Anno Domini 1803 11 °Clock A M

Prayer made by Rev^{d}. [Blank]

Warrant for calling the meeting [Read]

That part of the Constitution or frame of Government which relates to the choice of Representatives [Read]

The town having determined by a vote to choose seven persons to represent them in the general Court of Massachusetts to be holden in the State house in Boston on the last Wednesday of May current agreeable to the constitution or frame of Government for Massachusetts. the Inhabitants were directed by the Selectmen to withdraw and bring in their votes for seven Representatives and then it was declared by the Selectmen that no votes would be received by the Selectmen but such as are unfolded, and until the Persons entering shall be marked on the list by the Gentlemen, who assist for that purpose, from the several Wards, and that they propose the poll shall be closed at ½ past two

o'clock, the Bells to begin tolling at two o'clock and to continue until an half hour, is expired

The votes being brought in for seven Representatives the whole number of the same was found to be 2,060, and upon assorting them it appeared that the following seven Gentlemen had obtained a majority of Votes Viz

[**233.**]	Honble Harrison Gray Otis Esq	1175
	John Lowell Esq	1152
	Samuel Parkman Esq.	1163
	Jonathan Hunnewell	2031
	William Smith Esq.	1208
	William Brown Esq.	1197
	John Phillips Esq.	1243

The votes given for such as did not obtain were for

Hon James Bowdoin Esq - - -	873
David Tilden Esq - - - -	875
Russell Sturgis Esq - - -	884
Abiel Smith Esq - - - -	905
Nathaniel Fellows Esq - - -	842
Charles Paine Esq - - - -	815

The choice of Representatives being over & declared by the Selectmen,

Then, the meeting was dissolved.

At a meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public Town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the twelfth day of May Anno Domini 1803 at 10 o'clock AM.—

Warrant for calling the meeting Read

Joseph Russell Esq.
was chosen Moderator of this meeting by a hand vote

On motion, the Inhabitants were directed to bring in their votes for three Selectmen, and half past eleven o'clock assigned for closing the Poll.

On counting the votes it appeared that the whole number was 523 — and that the following [**234**] Gentlemen were chosen Viz^{t}.

John May Esq.	428 votes
Francis Wright Esq.	428 "
Jonathan Chapman Esq.	428 "

The following Gentlemen are added to Selectmen who conjunctly are to manage & lease the lands on Boston neck, by a unanimous vote, Viz

Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq.	William Brown Esq.
" William Tudor Esq.	Mr. Joseph Knapp
John Winslow Esq.	Mr. Joshua Davis Junr.

Article in the Warrant viz Whether the Town will impower Agents to maintain and defend any suits that may be brought, or to compromise with the Proprietors of the Roxbury Canal, for a piece of Marsh Land on the neck claimed by them" was read and considered, whereupon

Voted that the Agents for the neck be and hereby are appointed Agents for this purpose

The request of Isaac P Davis that he may have a deed of the land on which his Rope walk stands at the bottom of the common" was read — Whereupon, Voted that the Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to confer with the Proprietors of said Land, fully to consider this matter & report to the town at the adjournment.

The article in the warrant viz whether the Town will think it expedient to become interested in the proposed new Bank, read whereupon Voted that

The Honble. John C Jones Esq
Harrison G Otis Esq
Thomas Dawes Esq
John Codman Esq
Joseph Russell Esq
Charles Bulfinch Esq
John Q Adams Esq

[235] be a Committee to consider this matter and to report thereon at the adjournment the 23^{d} of May instant

On the petition for an increase of the present surveyors of Board & shingles, it was voted that two more persons should be added to the present number of surveyors, and the choice of this addition referred to the adjournment

The Committee to consider the expediency of reconsidering a former vote of the town for building a bridge from the South part of the town to Dorchester, and also the Petition of Edward Tuckerman and others for leave to build a wharf at the South part of the Town on Towns land — Report, That having attended the business assigned them and heard the several parties, are fully in opinion that the erection of a Bridge from the South part of Boston to Dorchester would be very injurious to the interest of the Town, they therefore recommend a reconsideration of a former vote of the Town, granting leave to the Petitioners for that purpose — That it is fully the opinion of the Committee (as they consider no real advantage can be derived from it to the Town)

that the prayer of the Petitioners for leave to build a wharf on the Towns land should not be granted.

Per Order Josiah Snelling Chairman

The aforegoing Report having been read & considered the Question was put whether said Report shall be accepted — passed in the affirmative

Voted that the other matters in the warrant not acted upon be referred to the adjournment and that the Inhabitants be informed of the same and of the business then to be acted upon — and the meeting is adjourned to Monday the twenty third day of May instant, 10 °Clock A M

[**236.**] Monday the twenty third day of May at ten o'clock A M the Town met according to adjournment

The inhabitants having brought in their votes for 2 surveyors of boards it appeared that

Mr. Nathaniel Bradlee Junr.
Nehemiah Doggett Junr. were chosen.

The Committee to audit the Town Treasurers Acco^ts. and also to examine the accounts of the late Treasurer & to balance his Books, Report — that they find the late Treasurer Samuel Clap Esq. charges the Town with monies paid from May to September 1802 as follows

To overseers drafts - - - - - - - - -	7092.34
To Selectmens d° - - - - - - - - -	19908.30
To Board of healths drafts - - - - -	1653.50
	28654.14
To Samuel Brown Esq. balance of his Acc° for New alms house - - - - - -	23533.32
To ditto agreeable to a vote of the town	800.
To Thomas Dawes d° - - - - - - - -	800.
To estate of G R Minot Esq. dec^d. - - -	800.
To amount of Interest paid since May last	1640.88
	$56228.34
The late Treasurer also credits the town By old acc°. for balance	23231.36.5
By cash received of Treas^r. Commonwealth to support the State poor - - - - - - - - - -	3792.38
By amount of rents received - - - - - - - -	815.50
By William Gooch at sundry times - - - - -	137.40
By Abel Wild being an error in a draft of June last	100.
By a fine of J W Bayles by order of the Selectmen	50.
	28,126.64,5
By balance due to the Town - - - - - - - -	28,101.69,5
	$56,228.34

The Committee further find the following Statement as the Trial balance in the late Treasurer acc^{ots}. Books. viz

[**237.**] Wherein he charges to Towns Powder - -		1041.94.5
To notes receiveable - - - - - - - - - - - - -		754.13.
To Andrew Tewksbury - - - - - - - - - - - -		127.51
To estate of James Thompson - - - - - - - -		645.78
To Benjamin Henderson - - - - - -	4868.96	
To Christopher Marshall - - - - - -	7883.31	
To Benjamin Jepson - - - - - - - -	9826.24	
To Thomas Bayley - - - - - - - -	7777.58	
		30358.9
To Cash - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		26.65
To Town of Boston - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		28101.69.5
		$61055.80

Wherein he credits the town of Boston, by notes payable viz

By Ezekiel Prices estate - - - - -	£220.15.4	
By B Barkers - - - - - - - - -	463.5	
By Elizabeth Partridge - - - - -	231.12.6	
By Selectmen of Boston - - - - -	369.	
By Benjamin Waldo's Estate - -	800.	
	£2084.12.10	Lawf^{l} M^{y}
which sum is equal in dollars - - - - - - -		6948.80
By Union Bank - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		53210.
By ditto - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		790.
By estate of John Gray - - - - - - - - - -		107.
		61055.80

Boston September 25, 1802. signed, Samuel Clap.

The Committee also find the aforementioned drafts from the Overseers Selectmen & Board of Health to have been paid & receipted for, and they appear to be well vouched and right cast, all which will more fully appear from the accounts exhibited to which reference will be had

Thomas Dawes }
Samuel Brown } Committee
Joseph Russell }

The Committee appointed to audit the Acco^{ts}. of the late Town Treasurer Mr Storer, Overseers of the poor & Board of health and the sum necessary to be raised the present year. Report.

[**238.**] The town of Boston as Dr to Ebenezer Storer Treasurer and Collector from October 1802 to March 1803 in Acc^{o}.

To Union Bank in part Notes - - - - - - -		14000.—
" Ditto for interest - - - - -	1893.26	
Interest on a Town Note - - -	73.80	
		1967.6
To Thomas Edwards on Thompsons debt - - -		16.45
" Counterfeit Bills received of Persons unknown		75.
" Ebenezer Seaver County Treasurer		11380.92
Jon[a]. Jackson Esq State Treasurer		9412.
		36851.43

To Selectmens drafts N° 1 - - -	3140.4	
Ditto " 2	2750.27	
Ditto " 3	5635.59	
Ditto " 4	5968.62	
Ditto " 5	1853.80	
Ditto " 6	7009.1	
Ditto " 7	405.60	
To Peter Jarvis - - - - - - - -	2.	
	26764.93	
deduct abatem[t]. in N° 3	3	
	26761.93	

To Overseers Drafts N° 1.	3789.24		
" D° - - - - - - 2	1115.33		
D° - - - - - - 3	673.76		
D° - - - - - - 4	1480.11		
D° - - - - - - 5	927. 1		
D° - - - - - - 6	1648.31		
		9633.76	
To Board of health N° 1.	517.16		
D° - - - - - N° 2	516.14		
D° - - - - - 3	712.85		
		1746.15	
			38141.84
To balance in the Treasury - - - - - - - -			3109.25
			$78,102.52

Cr		Prem[m].	
By tax cancelled 5 pr ct	55,527.68	2776.40	52751.28
ditto 3 pr ct	6538.75	196.14	6342.61
ditto 2 pr ct	1619.81	32.36	1587.45
	63686.24	3004.90	60681.34

[239.] By Cash of Collectors viz		
Benjamin Henderson - -	2945.78	
Christopher Marshall - -	3595.59	
Benjamin Jepson - - -	5434.97	
Thomas Bayley - - - -	4460.94	
		16,437,28
By estate of James Thompson - - - - - - - - -		645.78
By William Grant, Rent of Stalls - - -	100.	
By Benjn. White d^{o} of Market - - - -	20.	
By George Trott Hayweigher - - - -	218.12	338.12
		78,102.52

Here follows a trial balance March 14,1803, taken from the Books of Eben^{r}. Storer late Treasurer and Collector with this mem^{o}. The above balance of 3109.25/100. was paid to Benjamin Sumner the new Treasurer April 12, 1803, and the Chest with the books and papers were delivered to him

The Committee find the aforementioned drafts from the Overseers Selectmen & Board of health to have been paid & receipted for. and they appear to be well vouched and right cast, all which will more fully appear from the accounts exhibited, and from the books and papers with the chest, and balance of three thousand one hundred & nine dollars and twenty five cents delivered over to Mr. Benjamin Sumner the present Treasurer, April 12, 1803.

Thomas Dawes }
Joseph Russell } Committee
Samuel Brown }

There was annexed to the above Report an estimate of appropriation for the present year together with several suggestions for the consideration of the Town which will more fully appear by said Report, which having been distinctly read — after some debate — the question was put viz. whether these Reports shall be accepted by the Town, and it passed in the affirmative

[240.] Voted that the sum of Eighty eight thousand dollars be raised by a tax to be assessed on the Polls and estates of the Inhabitants of the town to defray the expenses of the current year.

Voted that the sum of Six hundred & sixty six dollars be allowed & paid unto William Cooper for his services as Town Clerk the ensuing year, the same to be paid him quarterly as it shall become due and to commence the first of March last.

Voted that the sum of Three hundred dollars be allowed to John Phillips Esq. for his services as Town Advocate the year ensuing.

Voted, That the Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq.
Joseph Russell Esq.
Charles Jarvis Esq.
James Prince Esq.
General Winslow
be a Committee for the purpose of enquiring generally into the state of the affairs of the County of Suffolk from the time the County of Norfolk was taken off and to report as soon as may be, and also what savings may be made.

On the Report of the Committee to consider the expediency of the Town being interested in the proposed Bank

Voted that the Selectmen together with the Town Treasurer & the County Treasurer be and hereby are appointed a Committee to confer with the Trustees of the proposed new Bank to obtain their consent that a right should be secured to the Town to subscribe at any future period to the said Institution a sum not exceeding Two hundred thousand dollars, and to agree upon such terms of Subscription as to them may appear for the interest of the Town

[**241.**] The Committee relative to the Ropewalks not having been able to make report, it was moved and voted that the Gentlemen Selectmen together with the Honorable Thomas Dawes Esq. Mr. Josiah Knapp Joseph Russell Esq. Mr. Ebenezer Larkin & Deacon Brown be and hereby are appointed a Committee with full powers to effect a settlement with the Proprietors of the Ropewalks, and to give them deeds of the Lands on which they stand either upon the terms originally conditioned by the town or on such others as in their opinion will be for the Interest & advantage of the town. —

The article in the warrant viz. " What measures shall be taken for the disposal and management of the Old State House, was read, and on motion Voted that the Committee chosen in the several Wards in April last to assist the Assessors, be appointed a Committee to consider this article in the warrant, and to report their opinion thereon at the Adjournment.

Then the meeting was adjourned to Monday the 13th of June next 10 °clock A M. —

Monday June 13, 1803, 10 oclock A M. The Town met according to adjournment.

The Moderator being out of Town, on motion the Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq. was chosen Moderator pro. tem. —

The Committee relative to the Old State house Reported — after some debate it was moved that the sense of the Town be taken as to the expediency of leasing the same — and the

question being put it passed in favour of its being leased. The report was again [242] taken up amended and accepted by the town, and is as follows viz.

That in the opinion of the Board of Assistant Assessors, the Committee for the purpose, it would be for the interest of the Town to lease the Old State house for a term of time not less than ten nor to exceed fifty years, and the rent to be paid quarterly or annually; and that it be a condition of the Lease that the house be put into good repair and kept so during the term for which it may be leased by and at the expense of the Lessee and shall be occupied for public or private offices and such other purposes only as the Selectmen for the time being shall approve of, and that no alteration be made in the external form of the building without their approbation the Lease containing a clause providing that if the Rent shall not be punctually paid, according to the terms of the lease, or if the Lessee or Lessees their heirs or assigns shall not occupy the estate according to the approbation or orders of the Selectmen as before expressed; or shall suffer it to go to waste for want of repairs, that then the Selectmen or the Town shall have a right to reenter, and by the reentry to render the Lease void after such an entry — providing however that the right of reentry be no bar to an action on the Lease against the Lessee or Lessees, their heirs, Executors, Administrators or Assigns if the Town consider such mode to be most eligible — and that it would be best to dispose of the lease at public Auction

William Walter — Secretary

Tristram Barnard — Chairman

[243.] Voted, that the Selectmen be and hereby are appointed Agents in behalf of the town to carry the aforegoing Report into execution. —

The Committee relative to the clause in the warrant respecting County expenses. Reported verbally and were desired to report again in writing, and that when ready to report the Selectmen are requested to call a special meeting for the consideration of the same. — Also, Voted that

Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq.
John Phillips Esq.

be added to said Committee.

Moved & voted that the consideration of the request of the Town Treasurer, Collector and Assessors for an augmentation of their respective salaries be referred for consideration to the meeting that may be called relative to County matters.

Voted that the thanks of the Town be given unto Joseph Russell Esq. and the Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq. for their good services in the Moderators chair

Then the meeting was dissolved.

[**244.**] At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public Town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the fourth day of July Anno Domini 1803, 9 oclock AM

Warrant for calling the meeting - - - - - - - Read

William Cooper, chosen Moderator.

The Committee appointed the last year to make choice of a Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the Anniversary of Independence, Reported. that they had made choice of William Sullivan Esq. who has accepted the appointment.

On motion adjourned to Old South Church, where agreeable to the information of the Selectmen

AN ORATION,

to commemorate the independence of the United States was delivered by William Sullivan Esq. at the Old South Church

On motion voted that the Selectmen be a Committee to wait on William Sullivan Esq. and in the name of the Town to thank him for the elegant & spirited Oration this day delivered by him at the request of the Town upon the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America; in which according to the Institution of the Town he considered the feelings, manners & principles which led to that great national event, and to request a Copy thereof for the press

On motion voted that the Gentlemen, Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to some one able and learned Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the fourth day of July A D 1804 that [**245**] Day being the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America wherein the Orator is to consider the feelings manners and principles which led to this great national event; as well as the important & happy effects whether general or domestic, which have already, or will forever flow from that auspicious Epoch

Then the meeting was dissolved

At a meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified & legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the twenty first day of December Anno Domini 1803 — 10 °Clock A M.—

Warrant for calling the meeting Read

Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq. chosen Moderator in the room of Judge Sullivan first chosen, who declined serving.

The Committee relative to the County of Suffolk Reported, and after considerable debate thereon it was moved & voted that this Report be printed and the Selectmen are requested to furnish each of the Freeholders with one of them, and that this meeting be adjourned to next Monday week, 10 oclock A M, and the meeting was accordingly adjourned.

1804.

The Town met according to adjournment, on Monday January 2d. 1804 — at 10 oclock A M.

The article in the Warrant relative to a Turnpike on the neck on Lords days read & debated [**246**] and the question being put whether it be sense of the town that a Turnpike be established, it did not obtain

The Report of the Committee to consider what savings could be made in the County expences &c was taken up and largely debated, whereupon motion was made and the Question accordingly put viz Whether the Town will attempt to procure any alteration in the County & Town Government, which passed in the affirmative by a great majority.—

It was then moved & voted that a Committee of Twenty four Gentlemen [be appointed], and that two out of each Ward be chosen as the Committee to consider & report on this matter, and that said Report be given into the Selectmen, and when thus given in, that the same be printed & dispersed among the Inhabitants for their iuformation, and the Selectmen were desired to call upon the Clerks of the Respective Wards to provide in the meetings of the Wards for that purpose —

Voted that any business unfinished, mentioned in the warrant be referred to next general town meeting.

Then the meeting was dissolved.

[**247.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified & legally warned in public town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 16th day of January Anno Domini 1804 at 10 oclock A M.—

Warrant for calling the meeting Read

Mr. James Prince
chosen Moderator by a hand vote

On motion voted to adjourn this meeting to the Old South Church.

The town being assembled at the Old South Church, the Warrant for the meeting, Petition &c being read, after some debate it was moved & seconded That the Town commit the proposal of William Tudor & others, (that the Lands on Dorchester Neck be annexed to the Town of Boston on certain conditions) to a Committee to be chosen for that purpose — a debate on this question ensued which continued until two oclock, when on motion the meeting was adjourned to 3 oclock P. M.

At three oclock PM The town met agreeable to adjournment, and the debate was again taken up which continued until 6 oclock when on motion the Meeting was adjourned to the next day 10 oclock AM.

January 17. 10 oclock AM the Town met, when the debate was renewed and continued until One oclock; the question of commitment was then taken, and it passed in the negative.

It was then moved & seconded, That the town will consent that the lands on Dorchester neck agreeable to the Petition of the Owners shall be annexed [**248**] to and incorporated with the Town of Boston provided it can be done on such conditions as the Town shall hereafter agree to. The question being accordingly taken passed in the affirmative —

It was then moved & voted that a Committee be chosen in the Wards consisting of two persons from each Ward to consider the conditions on which the Lands on Dorchester neck shall be annexed to and incorporated with the town of Boston, and that the Selectmen be requested to take measures to assemble the Wards for this purpose.

Adjourned to Monday the 23d instant

Monday 23d January instant at 10 oclock AM The town met according to adjournment, when the Chairman of the Selectmen reported that the Inhabitants of the several Wards had met and chosen the Committee agreeable to a vote of the town of the 17th instant, that the Committee had entered upon the business assigned them but were not yet ready to make report and proposed that the meeting should be adjourned to Monday the 30th instant, whereupon voted that this meeting be adjourned accordingly.

Monday January 30, instant at 10 oclock, the Town met according to adjournment

The report of the Committee chosen in the several Wards was read, whereupon it was moved & seconded and voted that this report be considered by paragraphs

The first paragraph relative to a Bridge from South Street was read & voted to be accepted.

The second paragraph relative to what shall be paid to vessells passing up above the bridge &c was read, and after a long debate, the Question whether the [**249**] same shall be accepted being put it was declared by the Moderator that the same had passed in the affirmative — this Vote being doubted a division of the house was called for on one part and warmly opposed on the other part — the Moderator then put the question called for whether it was [the] sense of the Town that the house should be divided which was declared by the Moderator to be in the negative — As it now appeared to be impossible under the present agitation of the meeting to proceed in the consideration of the paragraphs Mr. Otis propos'd that the terms and conditions — of the proposed Bridge from South Street shall be referred to the Legislature the Applicants holding themselves pledged to the Town to pay them twenty five thousand dollars or give one half of the bridge and the streets and lots for public accommodations as proposed.

This motion led to some general conversation and the motion was objected to as out of order, the debates and altercations having continued until two o,clock there was then a general call for an adjournment and the meeting was accordingly adjourned to Tuesday 10 oclock AM

Tuesday January 31, 10 oclock AM. The town met according to adjournment

It was then moved & seconded, that the Votes taken yesterday upon the report of the Committee be reconsidered, and that the place *from which* and the terms *on which* the proposed Bridge should be built, shall be left entirely to the Legislature. The Question being put it passed almost unanimously in the affirmative

Then the meeting was dissolved.

[**250.**] At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified & legally warned in public Town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the twenty ninth day of February Anno Domini 1804 at 10 oclock AM —

Warrant for calling the meeting Read

Honble. Thomas Dawes Esq. chosen Moderator by a hand vote.—

The Article relative to filling up the Mill pond read whereupon moved & carried, that this article with the petition be referr'd to a Committee who are requested to take up this matter at large and report at March meeting, but previous thereto to the Selectmen in order to its being printed for the inspection of the Inhabitants before said meeting Also

Voted that Honble. Thomas Dawes, Moderator
Samuel Brown Esq.
Joseph Russell Esq.
James Prince
Judge Dawes
be a Committee for this purpose.

The article in the Warrant viz to consider the application of William Phillips Esq. that his own and the towns right may be ascertained respecting a ten feet water way leading from Water Street to Kilby street" was read and referred to said Committee for consideration (excepting Judge Dawes who was excused) to report at March meeting.—

Voted that the Thanks of the town be given to the Moderator for his good services

Then the meeting was dissolved.

[**251.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified and legally warned in public Town meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall March 12th 1804. 10 OClock A.M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — Read

Hon^bl James Sullivan Esq chosen Moderator by a hand Vote

The Report of the Committee chosen by the Wards of the Town to consider what alterations in the County and Town Govnerment may be necessary and to devise a plan therefor"— was read; and after some debate

It was moved and carried, that this Meeting be adjourned to the 2^d Monday in April next. 10. oClock A.M. and the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned.

The second Monday of April, being the 9th Day of April 1804— 10 OClock in Forenoon — Town met according to Adjournment —

The Report of the Town Committee relative to a Plan for an alteration in the County and Town Government was again read by the Moderator — and after considerable debate thereon, it was

moved and the Question accordingly put — viz Whether this Meeting shall be dissolved — and passed in the affirmative — the decision of the Moderator being disputed, and a call that the Meeting may be divided — the House was divided — which very fully manifested, that the Moderator was right in his declaration, that the majority of the Town were for a dissolution of the Meeting.

And the Meeting was accordingly dissolved.

[252.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders, and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned, in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 19th Day of March Anno Domini 1804 9 OClock A.M.

Prayer was made by Rev^{d}. Dr. Eliot

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

Sundry Laws to be read at this Meeting were accordingly — read

Joseph Russell Esq. was chosen moderator by a hand vote

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Town Clerk, and the same having been brought in and counted, it appeared that

William Cooper

was chosen Town Clerk for the year ensuing, and the Oath of Office was administered to him by Mr. Justice Bulfinch.

The Inhabitants were directed to bring in their Votes for 9 Selectmen, and the same having been brought in counted and sorted, it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen Viz

Charles Bulfinch Esq	Eben^{r}. Oliver Esq
David Tilden Esq	Jon^{a}. Hunnewell Esq
William Porter Esq.	John May Esq
Mr. John Tileston	Francis Wright Esq

Jon^{a}. Chapman Esq

The Votes being brought in for 12 Overseers of the Poor, it appeared, that

Edward Proctor Esq	Mr. Samuel Snelling
Henry Hill Esq	Mr. Benjamin Goddard
William Smith Esq	Samuel Clap Esq
William Phillips Esq	Mr. Ozias Goodwin
[253.] Dr. Redford Webster	Mr. William Mackey
Thomas Perkins Esq	Joseph Coolidge Jur Esq

were chosen Overseers of the Poor for the Year ensuing.

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given to Stephen Gorham Esq Mr. Oliver Brewster & Stephen Codman Esq who have resigned as Overseers of the Poor, for their good services during their continuance in that Office

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for 24 Fire Wards, when it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen — Viz

Thomas Melvill Esq	John Winslow Esq
Amasa Davis Esq	Capt Joseph Howard
Samuel Parkman Esq	Mr. Benjamin Joy
Henry Jackson Esq	Stephen Codman Esq
William Scolley Esq	William Cunningham Esq
Joseph May Esq	Mr John Bray
Capt Robert Gardner	Mr. Thomas Dennie
John May Esq	General Eliot
William Brown Esq	Rufus G Amory Esq
Samuel Bradford Esq	Jon^{a}. Hunnewell Esq
Mr Joseph Head	Capt Daniel Messenger
Thomas H. Perkins Esq	Mr Ozias Goodwin

[**254.**] Voted, that in addition to the Selectmen 12 persons shall now be chosen a School Committee and the Votes being brought in it appeared that the following Gentlemen, were chosen — Viz —

Hon^{bl} Thomas Dawes Esq	Arnold Wells Esq
Dr Thomas Welch	Edward Gray Esq
Rev^{d}. Joseph Eckley DD	David Green Esq
Rev^{d}. J. T. Kirkland DD	Josiah Quincy Esq
Dr Aaron Dexter	Rev^{d}. William Emmerson
William Smith Esq.	John Phillips Esq.

Voted, that the above named Gentlemen who conjunctly with the Selectmen are termed the School Committee be and hereby are directed to carry the new System of Education which has been adopted by the Town into operation and said Committee are also authorized and empowered conjunctly to manage and regulate the Affairs, and the government of the Schools and in future to execute all the power relative to the Schools & School Masters, which the Selectmen or such Committees were authorized by the Laws of this Commonwealth or the Votes of the Town to exercise, any former Vote of the Town notwithstanding

The Votes for a Town Treasurer and Collector of Taxes being brought in it appeared, that

Mr Benjamin Sumner was chosen

Votes, for a Treasurer of the County of Suffolk brought in and counted by the Moderator & Town Clerk when it appeared that the whole number was 170, all of which were for Ebenezer Sever

Esq a discreet suitable person & a Freeholder and Resident in said County.

[**255.**] The Votes, being brought in for a Town Advocate for the Municipal Court, it appeared that

John Phillips Esq

was chosen.

Messrs. Joshua Bently
Benjamin White
John Cogswell
Daniel Ingersol jur
William Clouston
William Darricott
William Ellison

Messrs. John Butterfield
Samuel Treat
Nath[l] Bradlee Ju[r]
Noah Doggett Jun[r]
Caleb Coolidge
Brodick Loring
Edward Allen

were chosen Surveyors of Boards & Shingles for y[e] year ensuing

Messrs. Benjamin White
Moses Thayer

Messrs. Daniel Ingersol Ju[r]
William Darricott

were chosen Fence Viewers for the Year ensuing

Messrs. Barney Connor
Joseph Cabbit

were chosen Hogreeves for the Year ensuing

Messrs. Barney Connor
Joseph Cabbit

were chosen Haywards for the Year ensuing

Messrs. Samuel Emmons
James Phillips

were chosen Surveyors of Hemp for the Year ensuing.

[**256.**] Edward Tuckerman Esq
Mr Josiah Snelling

were chosen Surveyors of Wheat for the Year ensuing

Messrs. John Wells
William Cooper Hunneman

were chosen Assay Masters for the Year ensuing

Messrs. Roger Bartlet
Jonathan Cushing

were chosen Cullers of Dry Fish for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Henry Purkett
Lemuel Gardner
Thomas Barbour
James Eunson

were chosen Surveyors of Hoops & Staves for the Year ensuing

The Selectmen
were chosen Surveyors of High Ways for the Year ensuing.

Mr. Edward Rumney
was chosen Inspector of Stone Lime for the Year ensuing.

Judge Sullivan
was added to the Committee relative to a piece of Land in Water Street

Voted, that Honb[l] Thomas Dawes Esq
Joseph Russell Esq
Samuel Brown Esq
be, and hereby are appointed a Committee to Audit the Accompts of the Town Treasurer, and also the Accounts of the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, and Board of Health; and said Committee are also directed to report the Sums necessary to be raised, for the services of the present Year.

The Article in the Warrant viz "to take measures respecting the bequest of the late Honb[l] William Phillips Esq of Five thousand Dollars to the Town towards building an Hospital" was read, whereupon

Voted that the Selectmen be a [257] Committee to wait upon the Executor to the late Honb[l] William Phillips Esq to express the thanks of the Town for the generous bequest.

The Article in the Warrant relative to the Claim of a piece of Land in Water Street by William Phillips Esq was read, and referred to the Committee to which Judge Sullivan is added; said Committee not having been able to make Report

Adjourned to Wednesday the 28th March 10 OClock A.M.

Town met according to Adjournment March 28th 10 OClock A.M.

The Committee relative to the Claim of William Phillips Esq to a piece of Land near Water Street and considered thereupon—the Question was put viz Whether said Report be accepted —passed in the affirmative.

The Committee appointed to Consider the Petition of William Phillips Esq relating to a slip of Land on Kilby Street have attended that service and beg leave to Report—That it is in their opinion best that the Town Release to said Phillips and his Heirs all right to the said Slip of Land, provided he pay therefor so much money as three disinterested Arbitrators, mutually to be chosen by the Selectmen and said Phillips shall determine to be the value therefor, and provided he agree that he and his

Heirs and Assignes shall keep in good repair so much of the Drain as passes under said Strip of Land in the place it now occupies; and of its present dimensions. All which is submitted by

Thomas Dawes
Samuel Brown
Joseph Russell
J Prince

Boston March 27. 1804.

[258.] The Article relative to *Mill Pond* and the Report of Town's Committee thereon. was read, and on motion referred for further consideration, to the next May Meeting

Voted, that all matters, which shall remain unfinished at this Meeting, be referred over to May Meeting.

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given to Joseph Russell Esq. for his good services as Moderator of this Meeting

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of 21 Years of age and upwards, qualified as the Constitution prescribes, and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 2d of April Anno Domini 1804, 11 OClock A,M,

Prayer by the Revd. Joseph Eckley DD

Warrant for calling the Meeting — Read

Paragraph of the Constitution or frame of Government relative to the choice of Governor, Lieut Governor & Senators.

It was then declared by the Selectmen that no Vote will be received but such as are unfolded, and that they propose the Poll shall be closed at ½ past 2 OClock P.M. the Votes to be received at the Table and the Bells to begin ringing at 2 OClock — and to continue half an hour

Persons Voted for as Governor with the number of Votes for each Person — Viz

	Votes
His Excellency Caleb Strong Esq - - - - -	1980
Honbl James Sullivan Esq - - - - - - - -	650

Persons Voted, for as Lieut Governor, with the number of Votes for each Person — Viz

	Votes
Honb[l] Edward H Robbins Esq	1909
Honb[l] William Heath Esq	730

[**259.**] Persons Voted, for as Senators for the County of Suffolk with the number of Votes for each Person Viz —

	Votes
Honbl Oliver Wendell Esq	2647
Honbl Benjamin Austin Jur Esq	847
Honbl James Bowdoin Esq	1126
Honbl David Tilden Esq	1136
Abiel Smith Esq	1209
John Phillips Esq	1544
William Brown Esq	1802
Joseph Russell Esq	1516
Josiah Quincy Esq	1452

Attested copies of the Persons Voted for, as Governor Lieu[t] Governor and Senators for the County of Suffolk, sealed up in Town Meeting, (after the Votes had been declared) and transmitted to the Secretary of this Commonwealth. Subscribed as follows — Viz

For John Avery Esq.
Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The number of Votes of the Town of Boston for Governor, Lieu[t] Governor, and five Senators for the County of Suffolk, Certified within and sealed up in Town Meeting, after the Vote had been declared

Then the Meeting was dissolved

[**260.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 9th Day of April A. D. 1804.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — Read

Joseph Russell Esq.
was chosen Moderator by a hand Vote

The Request of William Tudor, Harrison G Otis and Jonathan Mason Esquires, "that the Town will appoint Agents to treat with them upon the terms, on which they may obtain the whole or part of the Town's Land on Orange Street now occupied by Capt Nath[l] Curtis for the purpose of building the proposed New Bridge therefrom" — was read and considered, whereupon

Voted, that the Selectmen be and hereby are appointed Agents on behalf of the Town, with full powers to treat with the proprietors of South Bridge for the disposal of the whole or such part of the Town's Landing on Orange Street, for the purpose of building the proposed Bridge, and to conclude with them such a Contract as may under all circumstances be for the Interest of the Town

Then the Meeting was dissolved

[**261.**] At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of 21 Years of Age & upwards qualified as the Constitution prescribes, and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 9th Day of May A. D. 1804. 11, OClock A. M.

The Meeting was opened with Prayer, by the Rev^{d}. Mr. Freeman.

Warrant for calling Meeting — Read

That part of the Constitution or frame of Government which relates to the choice of Representatives, read

The Town having determined by a Vote to choose 7 Persons to Represent them in the General Court of Massachusetts to be holden in the State House in Boston on the last Wednesday of May Current, agreeable to the Constitution or frame of Government for Massachusetts; the Inhabitants were directed by the Selectmen to withdraw and bring in their Votes for 7 Representatives, and then it was declared by the Selectmen that no Votes would be received by the Selectmen but such as are unfolded, and untill the names of the Persons entering shall be marked on the List by the Gentlemen who assist for that purpose from the several Wards, and that they propose the Poll shall be closed at ½ past 2 OClock, the Bells to begin tolling at 2 OClock and to continue untill half an hour is expired.

The Votes being brought in for Seven Representatives, the whole number was found to be 1976, and upon sorting them it appeared, that the following seven Gentlemen were chosen, having obtained a majority of the Votes Viz.

	Votes
Honb^{l} H G Otis Esq. - - - - - - -	1119
Jonathan Hunnewell Esq. - - - -	1136
William Smith Esq - - - - - -	1128
Abiel Smith Esq - - - - - - -	1971
Dr William Spooner - - - - - -	1095
Mr. John Wells - - - - - - -	1117
William Sullivan Esq - - - - -	1105

[262.] The Votes given in for such as did not obtain were for

	Votes
Hon^{bl} David Tilden Esq	890
Samuel Brown Esq	892
Russell Sturgis Esq	892
Samuel Clap Esq	896
David Townsend Esq	878
Abiel Smith Esq	[blank]
Col^{n} Gardner	844

The choice of Representatives being over and declared by the Selectmen —

The Meeting was dissolved

At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 10 Day of May A.D. 1804. 10 OClock A.M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — Read

Joseph Russell Esq
was chosen Moderator by a Hand Vote.

The article in the Warrant viz. "To consider what allowance shall be made the Town Treasurer & Collector, and the Assessors for their services" — was read and after some debate it was moved and Voted, that the

Hon^{bl} James Sullivan Esq
Charles Jarvis Esq
Hon^{bl} Joseph Russell Esq
Benjamin Russell Esq
Samuel Brown Esq
be a Committee to consider this matter and Report thereon at the adjournment.

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw, and bring in their Votes, for 6 Agents, in addition to the Selectmen as Trustees for the management of the Town lands who conjunctly are to lease and manage said Land, in such manner as shall appear to them best for the interest of the Town, and upon sorting the Votes brought in it appeared that

Hon^{bl} Thomas Dawes Esq
General John Winslow Esq
Hon^{bl} William Brown Esq
[263.] Josiah Knapp Esq
Joshua Davis Jur Esq
Hon^{bl} John Phillips Esq
were chosen

The Committee appointed to Audit the Accompts of the Town Treasurer &c &c and the sums necessary to be raised for the present Year.— Report Viz.

The Treasurer Credits the Town of Boston with sundry Sums of Money received by him to Amt of - - - - - - $147511.91
And charge the Town with the sum of - - - - 147511.91
which includes a ballance of $937.89 Cents
in the Treasury April 30. 1804

The particulars of said Debt & Credit will more fully appear from the Accounts herewith exhibited and which are as follows N° 1. and which is more fully explained in N° 2.

The Tryal ballance Acct to the Amt of $50156.44 is also annexed and is as N° 3 — The Committee find the aforementioned Accounts to be well vouched and right cast (so far as they have had time to proceed in the business) all which will more fully appear from the Accounts themselves when compared with the Books.— The Committee further Report that from an Estimate received from the Board of Selectmen &c there will be wanting the following Sums of Money for the Year 1804.

Selectmen - - - - - - - -	$42,000
Overseers of the Poor - - -	14,000
Board of Health - - - - -	4000
County of Suffolk - - - -	12000
State - - - - - - - - -	17620
Sundries - - - - - - - -	10380
Amounting in the whole to - - - - - - - -	$100,000

The Committee are therefore of opinion that the Town Vote, a Tax to be raised according to Law for $100,000 for the above purpose—

Thomas Dawes
Joseph Russell
Samuel Brown

[**264.**] The foregoing Report having been read and considered the Question was put whether the same shall be accepted, Passed in the Affirmative —

Voted, that the sum of $70,380 be raised by a Tax to be Assessed on the Polls and Estates of the Inhabitants of this Town, to defray the Expences of the Current Year

Voted, that the sum of $666 be allowed and paid unto William Cooper for his services as Town Clerk the ensuing Year —

Voted, that the Sum of three hundred Dollars be allowed to John Phillips Esq. for his services as Town Advocate the Year ensuing —

The Report of the Committee, relative to Mill Pond, again read — and after long debate the Question as called for was put that the Meeting be now Adjourned — passed in the Negative — It was then moved that the sense of the Town be taken with respect to the expediency of filling up the Mill Pond — and the Question being accordingly put — it was declared by the Moderator that the Vote was in the negative — there being a call that the House might be divided — it was accordingly divided twice, when the Moderator declared that he remained of the same opinion — a Poll was then demanded by seven Citizens, and on the division, the Moderator declared it was now his opinion the Vote was in favour of filling up the Pond — there was then a motion for an Adjournment, when the business might be again taken up and more fully discussed — when it was Voted, that the Meeting be Adjourned to Monday the 14th of May Inst 9 OClock A.M. for the consideration of this matter and other still unfinished.

Monday the 14th May 9 OClock Forenoon Town met according to Adjournment.

The business of the Mill Pond was taken up, and it appeared to be the sense of the Town that this matter, should be considered anew, the Vote for filling up the Pond at the last Meeting notwithstanding — A long debate then ensued, on the subject at large when, it was moved, — that the Question be put — viz Whether it be the [265] sense of this Meeting, that it is expedient that the Mill Pond should be filled up — and the Question being accordingly put Passed in the Affirmative, by a considerable majority

It was then moved and Voted, that a Committee be appointed to treat with the supposed Proprietors of the Mill Pond relative to filling up the same — and to make such Agreement with them for that purpose, as in the opinion of said Committee, shall be most for the advantage of the Town.

Voted, that Honbl William Eustis
Honbl Thomas Dawes Senr
Charles Jarvis Esq
Honbl Joseph Russell
Honbl James Sullivan
Honbl William Brown
be added to the Gentlemen Selectmen as a Committee for the purpose aforesaid —

The Committee to consider suitable Allowances to the Treas-

urer & Collector — and to the Assessors — Reported, and said Report as amended in Town Meeting, and accepted by the Town is as follows — Viz —

The Treasurer to be allowed and paid Seven hundred Dollars, in addition to five hundred Dollars allowed him for a Clerk in his last Accounts for 1803 and that he be allowed 1200 Dollars for the Year 1804 and to pay his own Clerk —

The Assessors, to be allowed — each for their services for the Year 1802. they having received 650 Dollars each for that Year — and that they be paid 650 Dollars each for the Years 1803 and 1804. —

Voted, that any matters unfinished at this Meeting be referred for consideration to the next General Meeting that shall be called.

[**266.**] Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given the Honbl Joseph Russell, for his good services as Moderator. —

Then the Meeting was dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 4th Day of July A.D. 1804 — 9 OClock A.M.

Warrant for calling Meeting — Read.

William Cooper
chosen Moderator —

The Committee appointed the last Year, to make choice of a Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the Anniversary of Independence —

Reported that they had made choice of Dr. Thomas Danforth, who has accepted of the appointment.

On Motion, Adjourned to Old South Church when

AN ORATION

to commemorate the Independence of the United States was delivered by Dr Thomas Danforth at the Old South.

On Motion Voted, that the Selectmen be a Committee to wait on Dr Thomas Danforth and in the Name of the Town to thank

him for the elegant and spirited Oration this Day delivered by him at the request of the Town, upon the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America; in which according to the Institution of the Town, he considered the manners, feelings and principles which led to that Great National Event — and to request of him a Copy thereof for the Press

On Motion Voted, that the Gentlemen Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to some able & learned Gentlemen to deliver an Oration on the 4th of July A.D. 1805, that Day being the Anniversary of the Independence [267] of the United States of America, wherein the Orator is to consider the feelings, manners, and principles which led to this great National event; as well as the important and happy effects whether general or domestic which have already or will forever flow from that auspicious epoch. —

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston qualified to vote for Representatives to the General Court of this Commonwealth and legally warned, in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall the 5th Day of November A.D. 1804 being the 1st Monday of the same Month 11 O Clock A.M.

Prayer made by Rev^{d} Mr Channing.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — Read

Paragraph of a Resolve of the General Court for the choice of Nineteen Electors of President and Vice President of the United States — and also for one Representative — Read.

It was then declared by the Selectmen that they proposed to have the Poll closed at ½ past 2 O Clock — the Bells to begin tolling at 2 O Clock.

Persons Voted for as Electors of the President & Vice President of the United States. — Viz

At Large

Honbl David Cobb Esq of Goolsburough District of Maine	2277
Honbl Oliver Wendell Esq of Boston, Dis't of Massachusetts	2277
Honbl John Coffin Jones Esq of Boston Suffolk Dist	2277
Essex S° District	
Honbl Benjamin Goodhue of Salem	2277

Essex N° District
Honbl Bailey Bartlet Esq of Haverhill - - - - - - 2277
Middlesex District
Honbl Eleazer Brooks Esq of Lincoln - - - - - - 2277
[268.] Hampshire N°. District
Honbl Eben Mattoon Junr Esq of Amherst - - - 2277
Hampshire S° District
Honbl William Shephard Esq - - - - - - - - - - 2277
Plymouth District
Honbl William Sever Esq of Kingston - - - - - - 2277
Barnstable District
Honbl Ebenezer Bacon Esq of Barnstable - - - - 2277
Bristol District
Honbl George Leonard Esq of Norton - - - - - - 2277
Worcester S° District
Joseph Allen Esq of Worcester - - - - - - 2277
Worcester N° District
Honbl Josiah Stearns Esq - - - - - - - - - - - 2277
Berkshire District
Honbl David Rosseter Esq of Richmond - - - - 2277
Norfolk District
Honbl Cotton Tufts Esq - - - - - - - - - - - 2277
York District
Honbl John Lord Esq of Berwick - - - - - - - 2277
Cumberland District
Honbl Isaac Parker Esq of Portland - - - - - - 2277
Lincoln District
Honbl Thomas Rice of Wiscasset - - - - - - - 2277
Kennebeck District
Samuel S Wilde Esq of Hallowell - - - - - 2277
At Large
Honbl James Sullivan Esq of Boston - - - - - - 1568
Honbl Elbridge Gerry of Cambridge - - - - - - 1568
Suffolk District
Honbl James Bowdoin of Boston - - - - - - - 1568
S° Essex
Col^n John Hathorn of Salem - - - - - - - - - - 1568
N° Essex
Dr Thomas Kitteredge of Andover - - - - - - - 1568
Middlesex
Honbl James Winthrop of Cambridge - - - - - - 1568
S° Hampshire
Jonathan Smith Jur of West Springfield - - 1568
N° Hampshire
Edward Upham Esq of New Salem - - - - 1568
Plymouth
Honbl James Warren of Plymouth - - - - - - 1568
[269.] Bristol District
Honbl Josiah Deane of Raynham - - - - - - 1568
Barnstable
Honbl John Davis of Barnstable - - - - - - - 1568

S° Worcester
General Timothy Newell of Sturbridge - - - - - - 1568
N° Worcester
General John Whiting of Lancaster - - - - - - - 1568
Berkshire
Honbl John Bacon of Stockbridge - - - - - - - 1568
Norfolk
Honbl William Heath of Roxbury - - - - - - - 1568
York
Honbl John Woodman of Buxton - - - - - - - 1568
Cumberland
Honbl Charles Turner of Turner - - - - - - - - 1568
Kennebeck
Col^n Thomas Fillebrown of Hallowell - - - - - - 1568
Lincoln
John Farley Esq of New Castle - - - - - - 1568

Persons Voted, for as a Representative for the first Middle District of this Commonwealth in the next Congress of the United States - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - Viz. —

Votes
Honbl William Eustis Esq — Fifteen hundred sixty seven
Honbl Josiah Quincy Esq — Nineteen hundred & twenty
Honbl John Phillips Esq - - - - - - - - - - Three

Two attested copies of the Persons Voted for as above were sealed up, and sent to the Secretary of this Commonwealth by the Town Clerk — superscribed as follows — Viz —

For John Avery Esq
Secretary of the Commonwealth

List of Votes, for a Representative for the first middle District of this Commonwealth in the next Congress of the United States, from the Town of Boston — (the other for Electors &c. of the same tenor)

Then the Meeting was dissolved

1805.

[**270.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned, in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 4th Day of February A.D. 1805.

Warrant for calling the Meeting - - - Read.

Thomas Edwards Esq
chosen Moderator by a hand Vote.

A Communication from the Mill Proprietors as also the Act incorporating said Proprietors — were read —

It appearing to the Town, that the Hall was not sufficient to receive all the Inhabitants, that would attend the Meeting — the Selectmen were desired to prepare a suitable place for the Meeting of the Inhabitants at the proposed Adjournment.

The Meeting was then Adjourned to Thursday next 10 OClock. A.M: to meet at this place or such other as may be designated by the Selectmen.

Thursday the 7th of February 10 OClock AM: met according to adjournment.

The Selectmen Reported, several places where the Inhabitants might be accommodated, leaving it with the Town to determine which was the most convenient when the Town on Motion Adjourned to Mr. Murray's Meeting House.

The Town as adjourned, met at Revd. Mr Murray's Church.*

The Report of the Committee on Mill Pond was again read, and after long debate thereon, the Question was put, Whether the same shall be accepted Passed in the Affirmative by a great Majority — (Memo the Report was printed and distributed, previous to this Meeting, which together with other Papers relative to Mill Pond, are placed upon the Files Feby 4. 1805)

On motion This Meeting stands Adjourned to February 8 then to meet at this place 10 OClock A.M.

[**271.**] Town Met according to Adjournment Thursday the 8th of February 10 O Clock. A. M.

The Article in the Warrant. Viz "To Act upon the Petition of the Inhabitants of South Boston and others to take the sense of the Town, whether they will direct their Representatives, to use their endeavours to obtain a Bridge to South Boston, from South Street or the parts Adjacent"— was read, as also the petition and other papers relative thereto — And after full debate had thereon, it was moved and carried

That it will be a great advantage to the Town to have a Bridge from South Street or some place near it to South Boston, as soon as the same can be conveniently erected; And that the Representatives of the Town and the Senators for the County of Suffolk be requested to solicit the Legislature from time to time, and procure an Act to be passed for that purpose, without delay —

* First Universalist, Hanover street.

On Motion Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to Thomas Edwards Esq for his good services, as Moderator of this Meeting.—

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

[272.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 11th Day of March. A. D. 1805 9 OClock A. M.

Prayer was made by the Revd. Dr Lathrop

Warrant for calling the Meeting — Read

Sundry Laws to be read at this Meeting were accordingly — read

Thomas Edwards Esq
was chosen Moderator by a hand Vote

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Town Clerk, and the Votes having been brought in and counted, it appeared, that
William Cooper
was chosen Town Clerk for the Year ensuing and the Oath of Office was administered to him by Thomas Edwards Esq

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for 9 Selectmen and the same having been brought in and counted it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen

Charles Bulfinch Esq	Mr. Ebenezer Oliver
David Tilden Esq	Jonathan Hunnewell Esq
William Porter Esq	John May Esq
Mr. John Tileston	Francis Wright Esq

Jonathan Chapman Esq

Adjourned to 3 OClock. P.M.

[273.] Met according to Adjournment.

Edward Proctor Esq	Mr Samuel Snelling
Henry Hill Esq	Mr Benjamin Goddard
William Smith Esq	Samuel Clap Esq
William Phillips Esq	Mr. Ozias Goodwin
Dr. Redford Webster	Mr. William Mackey
Thomas Perkins Esq	Joseph Coolidge Jur Esq

were chosen Overseers of the Poor for the Year ensuing

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for 24 Fire-wards, when it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen — Viz

Thomas Melvill Esq		Mr Thomas Dennie
Mr. Amasa Davis		General Elliot
Samuel Parkman Esq		Rufus G Amory Esq
Henry Jackson Esq		Jonathan Hunnewell Esq
William Scollay Esq	[274.]	Capt Daniel Messenger
Joseph May Esq		Mr Ozias Goodwin
Capt Robert Gardner		Mr. Thomas Curtis
Samuel Bradford Esq		Joshua Davis Jur Esq
John Winslow Esq		Mr John D Howard
Stephen Codman Esq		Mr Benjamin Coates
Andrew Cunningham Esq		Mr Joseph Head
Mr John Bray		Thomas H Perkins Esq

Voted, that in addition to the Selectmen 12 Persons shall now be chosen a School Committee, and the Votes being brought in and sorted, it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen — Viz.

Hon^bl Thomas Dawes Esq	Arnold Wells Esq
Dr Thomas Welch	Edward Gray Esq
Revd Joseph Eckley DD	David Green Esq
Rev^d J T Kirkland DD	Josiah Quincy Esq
Dr Aaron Dexter	Revd William Emmerson
William Smith Esq	John Phillips Esq

Voted, that the above named Gentlemen who conjunctly with the Selectmen are termed the School Committee be and hereby are directed to carry the new System of Education which has been adopted by the Town into operation, and said Committee are also authorised and empowered conjunctly, to manage and regulate the Officers, and the Government of the Schools, and in future to execute all the power relative to the Schools & Schoolmasters, which the Selectmen or such Committee were authorised by the Laws of the Commonwealth or the Votes of the Town to exercise, any former Votes of the Town notwithstanding.

[275.] The Votes for a Town Treasurer & Collector of Taxes being brought in it appeared that

Mr Benjamin Sumner

was chosen.

Votes, for a Treasurer of the County of Suffolk brought in & counted by the Moderator & Town Clerk, when it appeared that the whole number was 383 of which 231 were for Ebenezer Seaver Esq & 152 for Mr Benjamin Sumner both discreet suitable Persons & Freeholders and Residents in said County.

The Votes being brought in for a Town Advocate for the Municipal Court it appeared that

John Phillips Esq was chosen.

Messrs. Jonathan Bentley
Benjamin White
John Cogswell
Daniel Ingersol
William Clouston
William Darracott
William Ellison

Messrs. John Butterfield
Samuel Treat
Nathaniel Bradlee Jur
Noah Dogget Jur
Caleb Coolidge
Braddock Loring
Edward Allen

were chosen Surveyors of Boards & Shingles, for the Year ensuing

[276.] Messrs. Benjamin White
Moses Ayers
Daniel Ingersol Jur
William Darracot
were chosen Fence Viewers for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Barney Connor
James Cobbit
were chosen Hogreeves for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Barney Connor
James Cobbit
were chosen Haywards for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Samuel Emmons
James Phillips
were chosen Surveyors of Hemp for the Year ensuing.

Edward Tuckerman Esq
Mr Josiah Snelling
were chosen Surveyors of Wheat for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. John Wells
William Cooper Hunneman
were chosen Assay Masters for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Jonathan Cushing
Joseph Doble
Elisha Turner
were chosen Cullers of Dry Fish for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Henry Purkitt
Lemuel Gardner
Thomas Barbour
James Eunson
were chosen Cullers of Hoops & Staves for the Year ensuing.

[277.] The Selectmen
were chosen Surveyors of Highways for the Year ensuing

Mr Edward Rumney
was chosen Inspector of Stone Lime for the Year ensuing.

The Article in the Warrant, viz "to consider the application of Mr Josiah Knapp, that the Town would relinquish to him part of their Flatts bounding on a passage way leading south of his dwelling House from Orange Street to Front Street, upon terms to be agreed upon" was read — Whereupon

Voted, that the Selectmen be authorized to make such contracts with Mr Josiah Knapp relative to the filling up and making the Street leading through his Estate to Front Street, as they may Judge for the interest of the Town and to convey to him by Quit Claim Deed, such part of the Flatts adjoining the same as they may Judge proper reserving thirty feet in width for said Street.

Voted, that the Honb[l] Thomas Dawes Esq
Joseph Russell Esq
Samuel Brown Esq
be and hereby are appointed a Committee to Audit the Accompts of the Town Treasurer, and also the Accompts of the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, & Board of Health and said Committee are also directed to Report the sums necessary to be raised for their services for the present Year.

The Article in the Warrant viz "To act upon the Petition of Samuel Hunt, that the Rent of the House might be allowed him, as the House of the Latin Grammar Master was taken down to accommodate the Town with a place for a School house; and that he might receive the advantage of a Vote of the Town, passed [278] in his favour in the Year 1782 — was read whereupon

Voted, that Honb[l] Judge Dawes Dr. Warren
Mr. William Dall Caleb Bingham
Mr. Ticknor Stephen Codman Esq
Capt Barnard
be a Committee to take up this matter & Report at the Adjournment

The Article in the Warrant viz "To hear and determine on the request of the Fire Wards, for a Grant of a reasonable compensation to their Secretary read, and

Voted, that Benjamin Austin Jur Esq Col[n] Proctor
Thomas Edwards Esq Deacon Brown
Col[n] May
be a Committee to consider this application and to Report at the Adjournment

On the request of the Assessors, "that, a further allowance may be made them for their services," —

Voted, that General Winslow Major Stutson
Joseph Cooledge Jur Esq Stephen Codman Esq
Capt Brazier
be a Committee to consider this request and Report thereon at the Adjournment

The Clause in the Warrant, viz. "To consider the expediency of providing a more convenient place for Assembling the Inhabitants" — read — and on Motion

Voted, that the Selectmen consider this matter and report thereon when they shall judge proper —

Adjourned to Wednesday the 27th March Inst 10 O Clock A.M.

[279.] Wednesday the 27th of March 1805 — 10 O Clock A.M. Met according to Adjournment

The Committee on the Petition of the Assessors for a further allowance for their services, Reported, That having heard the Assessors, and examined the business & the time they are obliged to spend therein, are of opinion in consideration of the increase of duty & high price of living, that there be granted the Sum of five hundred Dollars to each which is at the rate of 166 Dollars 66 Cents Pr Year in addition to their Salaries, as a full consideration for past services.

John Winslow, Chairman per Order

The Committee on the Petition of Mr. Samuel Hunt — Reports That upon conferring with him found that by some mistake in that petition, it does not comprehend the object which he intended — they therefore advised him to withdraw it, and prefer a new one should he think proper to a future Meeting, to which he has consented; and the Committee Report accordingly.

Thomas Dawes Jur per order

This Report having been read, was accepted by the Town.—

Colo Gardner, having sent in his resignation as a Fire Ward, It was moved & Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given to Colo Robert Gardner for his good and faithfull services as a Fire Ward a number of Years past.

The Committee on the request of the Fire Wards for the grant of a reasonable compensation to their Secretary Report, That two hundred Dollars be allowed as a full compensation for his services the Year ensuing to be paid by the Selectmen in Quarterly draughts on the Town Treasurer —

Benjamin Austin Jur per Order

[280.] Moved & Voted, almost unanimously, that the said Report be accepted.

Voted, that all matters which shall remain unfinished at this Meeting, be referred for consideration to May Meeting

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given to Thomas Edwards Esq, for his good services as Moderator of this Meeting.

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of 21 Years of Age and upwards qualified as the Constitution prescribes and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 1st Day of April Anno Domini 1805 9 OClock. A. M.

Prayer by the Revd Dr. Eliot —

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

Paragraph of the Constitution or Frame of Government relative to the choice of Governor, Lieut Governor & Senators — read

It was then declared by the Selectmen that no Vote would be received but such as are unfolded and that they propose the Poll shall be closed at ½ past 1 oClock P. M. The Votes to be received at the Table and the Bells to begin ringing at 1 oclock and to continue for half an hour.

Persons Voted for as Governor with the number of Votes for each person —

	Votes
His Excellency Caleb Strong Esq - - - - -	2587
Honbl James Sullivan Esq - - - - - -	1253
Honbl Elbridge Gerry Esq - - - - - -	5

[281.] Persons Voted, for as Lut. Governor with the number of Votes for each Person

	Votes
Honbl Edward H Robbins Esqr - - - -	2520
Honbl William Heath Esqr - - - - -	1312
Honbl Henry Knox - - - - - - - - -	10
Christopher Gore Esqr - - - - - - -	7

Persons Voted, for as Senators for the County of Suffolk with the number of Votes for each Person

	Votes
Honbl Oliver Wendell Esq - - - - - -	2556
Honbl Harrison G Otis Esq - - - - -	2407
Honbl William Brown Esq - - - - - -	2300

Honbl John Phillips Esq - - - - - - -	2543
Thomas H Perkins Esq - - - - -	2534
Honbl David Tilden Esq - - - - - - -	1315
Samuel Brown Esq - - - - - - -	1310
Russell Sturgis Esq - - - - - - -	1522
Samuel Clap Esq - - - - - - -	1209
Dr David Townsend - - - - - - - - -	1270
Jonathan Hunnewell Esq - - - -	68
Stephen Codman Esq - - - - - -	38

Attested Copies of the Persons Voted for as Governor, Lieut Governor, and Senators for the County of Suffolk sealed up in Town Meeting after the Votes had been declared and transmitted to the Secretary of the Commonwealth Subscribed as follows — Viz.

For John Avery Esq
Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The number of Votes of the Town of Boston for Governor Lieu^{t} Governor and five Senators for the County of Suffolk Certified within & sealed up in Town Meeting after the Vote had been declared.

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

[282.] At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of 21 Years of Age and upwards qualified as the Constitution requires, and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Friday the 3^{d} Day of May A.D. 1805, 10 OClock A.M.

Warrant for calling Meeting — read — also the Section of the Law relative to choice of Representatives.

Honbl Thomas Dawes Esq
chosen Moderator of the Meeting by a hand Vote —

The Petition for a Town Meeting, signed by Stephen Higginson Jur Esq and others — read

The Article in the warrant viz "To take into consideration the propriety of increasing the customary number of Representatives, and of ascertaining & determining upon the number to represent the Town in the next General Court" — was read — and after some debate — it was Voted, That the Town will exercise its Constitutional privilege, in the choice of Representatives — It was therefore Voted and by a handsome majority, that at the ensuing Town Meeting the Citizens shall bring in their Votes for Twenty six Representatives.

The Moderator, had a Vote of Thanks for his good services

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

[283.] At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of 21 Years of Age, and upwards qualified as the Constitution prescribes, and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 8th Day of May A. D. 1805 — 9 O Clock. A. M.

The Meeting opened with Prayer by Revd. Dr. Baldwin —

Warrant for calling Meeting — read

That part of the Constitution or Frame of Government which relates to the choice of Representatives — read

The Town having determined by a Vote to choose Persons to Represent them in the General Court of Massachusetts to be holden in the State House in Boston on the last Wednesday of May Current agreeable to the Constitution or Frame of Government for Massachusetts; the Inhabitants were directed by the Selectmen to withdraw and bring in their Votes for Representatives not exceeding 26; then it was declared by the Selectmen that no Votes would be received, but such as are unfolded and untill the names of the Persons entering shall be marked on the List by the Gentlemen who assist for that purpose from the several Wards, and that they propose the Poll shall be closed at 2 O Clock the Bells to begin ringing at ½ past 1 O Clock and to continue until half an hour is expired.

The Votes, being brought in for 26 Representatives the whole number was found to be 1051 and upon sorting them it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen, having obtained a majority of the Votes. Viz

	Votes
William Smith Esq	1043
Jonathan Hunnewell Esq	1042
Dr William Spooner	1043
Mr John Wells	1046
William Sullivan Esq	1047
Honbl George Cabot Esq	1049
Theophilus Parsons Esq.	1037
[284.] Honbl Jonathan Mason Esq	1027
Stephen Codman Esq	1036
John Winslow Esq	1041
Daniel Sargent Jur Esq	1020
William Phillips Esq	1036
James Lloyd Esq	1033

Thomas Perkins Esq - - - - - - - - -	1040
Simon Elliot Esq - - - - - - - - - -	1040
Samuel Parkman Esq - - - - - - - -	1028
Joseph Hall Esq - - - - - - - - - -	1046
Edward Tuckerman Esq - - - - - - -	1046
Mr Francis Wright - - - - - - - - -	1041
Dr Redford Webster - - - - - - - - -	1041
Mr Thomas C Amory - - - - - - - -	1026
Edward Gray Esq - - - - - - - -	1048
William Parsons Esq - - - - - - -	1049
John Callender Esq - - - - - - - -	1021
Benjamin Russell Esq - - - - - - -	1001
Mr Thomas W Sumner - - - - - -	1002

The choice of Representatives being over and declared by the Selectmen —

The Meeting was dissolved.

[285.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified and legally warned, in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 9th Day of May, Anno Domini 1805 10 OClock A.M.

Warrant for calling Meeting — Read

Honbl Thomas Dawes Esq
was chosen Moderator by a hand Vote

Votes for one Fire ward in the room of one who had declined serving — being brought in and counted, it appeared that

Mr Judah Hays — was chosen a Fireward for the Year ensuing.

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for six Trustees for Town Land on the Neck in addition to the Selectmen, who conjunctly are to Lease and manage said Land in such manner as shall appear to them best for the Interest of the Town. the same being brought in and sorted it appeared that

Honbl Thomas Dawes Esq
General John Winslow Esq
Honbl William Brown Esq
Josiah Knapp Esq
Joshua Davis Jur Esq
Honbl John Phillips Esq
were chosen.

Petition of Purchasers of Land on Neck — read, together with a Statement from the Trustees of said Land whereupon

Voted that the Statement be printed, with an abstract of the original conditions of Sale.

The Selectmen having laid before the Town a proposal for, together with the Estimate of the charge of enlarging Faneuil Hall it was moved and Voted, that the [286] same be printed for the inspection of the Inhabitants

The Petition of Samuel Hunt late Master of Grammar School for an allowance for House Rent &c was read, and committed to

Stephen Codman Esq
Joseph Russell Esq
Mr Elisha Ticknor

they to examine, and Report thereon to the Town

The request of the Town Clerk "that an allowance may be made him on account of the rise of Rents and the high price of the nescessaries of life" was read whereupon Voted, unanimously that the Selectmen be impowered and directed, to make him such allowance therefor, as has been allowed and drawn for the School Masters and other Town Officers for a number of Years past.—

On Motion, the Meeting was adjourned to Thursday the 23d of May Inst 10 OClock A.M.

Thursday the 23d of May 10 OClock A.M. Met according to Adjournment

The petition of a number of Purchasers of the lots of Land on the Neck "that the condition of their purchases may be altered" read — as also the Communication of the Trustees, which by order of the Town was printed and distributed among the Inhabitants — viz "That they have considered this subject generally, and upon enquiry and examination, find, 'That the mode of purchase by Lease is not conformable to the practice and habits of our Citizens —

That the conditions of payment of a perpetual ground rent so embarrasses and encumbers the title that the original purchasers will find it difficult to subdivide their lots and thereby obtain that assistance in building upon which many of them calculated — That considering the quantity of Land lately added to the Town, it is important that the Lands of the Town for sale should be offered on as good terms and if possible upon more favourable terms, than the Lands of Individuals — The Trustees therefore would recommend, that the Sales of Lots in future should be by Deed in Fee Simple — That ten per cent of the purchase money should be advanced within Thirty days from the Sale, and ten pr cent be paid annually at some stated period in each Year; untill the whole [287] shall be paid; and that a mortgage deed

should be taken for the regular payment of principle & Interest with proper obligations for the full security of the Town —

The Trustees having also considered the great importance of vesting the proceeds of the Towns Land in such a manner as shall create a fund, the interest of which may in future defray a large portion of the expences of the Town, would recommend that the Town should empower the Trustees to vest the proceeds of the land in Stock of the United States, of this State, or of any public institution, to be held in the names of the Trustees, the interest to be received annually by the Town Treasurer, and appropriated as the Town shall direct —

With respect to the present application of the Lessees the Trustees recommend that all those who shall comply with their engagements to build during the present Year shall be placed on the same footing as the future purchasers contemplated above; that their leases be cancelled, and the Deeds be given them for their lots, upon their paying ten per Cent annually of the principal and interest due.

As the Trustees however are sensible that this arangement would be greatly for the interest of the present applicants, they are of opinion it ought to be on condition that they fill up with earth or gravel, and put in good order the cross Streets to the extent of their lots and that they place a row of edge stones on the line of the foot walk of their front on Washington Street, and level and pave the same with Bricks, As the accommodation of the holders of the land will be principally promoted by these measures, the Trustees hope that these conditions will be readily agreed to"

After due consideration, it was moved and voted, unanimously, that the Report be accepted —

The Selectmen having (as directed by the Town) Reported what measures should be taken for the better accommodation of the Inhabitants in their public Meetings" it was read and accepted and Voted, that the Selectmen be empowered and directed to proceed to enlarge Faneuil [288] Hall in the manner and for the uses pointed out in the Report. —

That the Selectmen be empowered to sell and execute Deeds to convey the Land of the Town on the Northly side of the Circular Walk on Fort Hill, reserving therefrom as much as may be necessary for commodious Streets and Passages — That untill the payments for the Land shall be made, the Town Treasurer be empowered to borrow of either of the Banks such sums of money for the purchase of Materials and payment of Workmen as the Selectmen shall find necessary; the same to be repaid by the proceeds of the Land —

The Committee appointed to Audit the Accompts of the Town Treasurer &c — Report —

That the Treasurer Credits the Town of Boston with sundry sums of money received by him to the amount of $121,632,44 and charges the Town with the sum of $121,632.44 including a ballance of $3073.67 in the Treasury April 30. 1805 which is represented in his account Current Paper N° 1. the particulars of said debt and Credit will more fully appear from the statement herewith exhibited and annexed, which will be found in N° 2 A Summary of the Cash paid monthly by the Town Treasurer from May 1. 1804 to 30th April 1805 taken from the Account Current, and the amount of the different drafts drawn on the Town Treasurer monthly from May 1804 to April 1805 by the Selectmen Overseers of the Poor & Board of Health, and the money paid them; also the money paid the State Treasurer, County Treasurer, Union Bank, Interest money, and sundry Creditors, and the amount of the Outstanding debts are all comprehended in N° 3. —

The Tryal Ballance in the Town Treasurers Books of debts and credits stands April 30. 1805 $42146.17 in N°. 4

The Committee on the Mem° of Taxes for 1802 committed to the several Deputy Collectors, upon the expiration of 6 M°. find the N° of Bills to be 2577 amounting to $11,873 86 the expence of collecting which amounted to $276, and for 1803 the N° of Bills delivered for Collecting to be 2425 amounting to $27,674.12, the expence of Collecting not settled as will be seen in papers, N° 5 & 6

The Committee find the aforementioned Accompts to be well vouched and right cast (so far as they have proceeded in the business) All which will be more fully understood, from [289] the Accompts themselves when compared with the Books.

The Committee further Report that from Estimates received there will be wanting for

The Selectmen - - - - - - - -	$46000
Overseers of the Poor - - - - - -	15200
Board of Health - - - - - - - -	4000
State Tax - - - - - - - - - - -	17718
County Tax - - - - - - - - - -	14000
	$96,918

The Committee therefore are of opinion that the Town of Boston Vote a Tax to be raised according to law for $100,000 for the above purposes which is humbly submitted

Thomas Dawes }
Samuel Brown } Committee
Joseph Russell }

The aforegoing Report having been read & considered the Question was put whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affirmative —

Voted, that the sum of Sixty five thousand Dollars be raised by a Tax to be Assessed on the Polls & Estates of the Inhabitants of this Town to defray the Expences of the Current Year —

Voted, that the Sum of $300 be allowed and paid to John Phillips Esq for his services as Town Advocate the Year ensuing.

Voted, that the sum of $666, be allowed and paid to William Cooper for his services as Town Clerk the Year ensuing.

Voted, that the sum of $816 be allowed and paid to each of the three Assessors for the Year ensuing. —

On Motion Voted, that the Auditors of Town Accompts be requested to consider what compensation should be made to the Treasurer for his own services — those of his Assistants, and for Office Rent the present Year. —

[**290.**] Mr Hunts Petition and Report thereon, having been read and debate had thereon — the same upon Motion is referred for further consideration to the Adjournment of this Meeting —

On Motion Adjourned to Monday next 10 oClock A.M.

Monday the 27th of May 10 oClock A.M. met according to Adjournment —

The Committee on the Town Treasurers Application being the Auditors of the Town Accompts, Reported, without mentioning a Sum as a compensation for the Treasurer the present Year — his Application again taken up and after debate Voted, that the Treasurer be allowed and paid $1500 for the present Year, he to pay his Clerk Assistance, Office hire and all expences of Office. —

Moved and Voted, to reconsider the Vote of the acceptance of the Report of the Auditors of Town Accounts so far only as it respected Mr. Sumner the Town Treasurers Account.

Moved and Voted, that the Report of the Committee to Audit Town Treasurers Accompts &c be recommitted to the Auditors, for the sole purpose of correcting any errors that may be found in the Town Treasurers Accounts

The Committee appointed to consider the Petition of Samuel Hunt the late Grammer S. Master in this Town have attended that service and have heard him on the subject of his several

claims for House rent, deprivation and for the loss of future employment, and in consideration of his having spent the prime of his life in the service of the Town, and being now advanced in Years with a large Family to provide for, and the School Committee having by a Vote declared "that in discharging Mr. Hunt they do not mean to charge him with the want of disposition to be useful as an Instructor, or to fix any imputation upon his principles and character, but do declare their favourable opinion of his morals and private virtues and their sense of his right to a good consideration among his Fellow Citizens," and the said School Committee by their letter to Mr. Hunt dated the 4th of October 1804. did encourage him to make application to the Town for an Annual stipend, and that the Committee would assist him in [291] such application with all their influence.

Your Committee also being impressed with the importance of giving the greatest possible encouragement to all future Grammer School Masters, by evincing to them the provident care of the Town in providing for them in old age, if they by their services and merit should be entitled to it; and also taking into consideration the peculiar circumstances of Mr. Hunts case, beg leave to recommend to the Town to Grant Mr. Samuel Hunt the late Grammar School Master in this Town the Sum of twenty five hundred Dollars in full of all demands against the Town, all which is submitted.

Stephen Codman per Order

The aforegoing Report as read and amended in this Meeting was accepted by the Town — and on Motion made and seconded

Voted that the Sum of twenty five hundred Dollars be and hereby is granted to Mr. Samuel Hunt late Grammar School Master in this Town, to be in full of all demands against said town.

Voted, that all matters and things unfinished in this Town Meeting be referred for consideration to the next General Town Meeting.—

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given to Honbl. Thomas Dawes Esq for his good services as Moderator.

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

[292.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public Town Meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 17th June A. D. 1805 10 OClock A. M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — Read.

Honbl. Thomas Dawes Esq was chosen Moderator by a Hand Vote

The Votes for a Town Treasurer & Collector of Taxes being brought in, counted & sorted, it appeared that the whole number were found to be 573, of which

William Smith Esq had - - - - - - - - - - - - 436

and was chosen, in the room of Mr Sumner who had resigned, as per resignation on file

The Article in the Warrant viz "To consider the expediency of taking measures for the more equal division of the Wards of the Town" — was read, whereupon

Voted, that the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor the Members of the Board of Health, and Brigadier General of the Legionary Brigade of the 1st Division be empowered and directed to make such a division of the Town into Wards, as they shall judge most for the convenience and advantage of the Town —

That the said new division of Wards take place the 1st day of February next —

That the Representatives of this Town in the General Court be Instructed to apply to the Legislature for any confirmation or assent to said division that may be necessary —

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given the Honbl Thomas Dawes Esq for his good services as Moderator

Then the Meeting was dissolved

[**293.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders, and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 4th day of July A. D. 1805 — 9 O Clock A. M.

Warrant for calling Meeting — Read

William Cooper chosen Moderator.

The Committee appointed the last Year to make choice of a Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the Anniversary of Independence — Reported that they had made choice of Warren Dutton Esq who has accepted of the appointment —

On Motion, Adjourned to Old South Church when

AN ORATION

to commemorate the Independence of the United States was delivered by Warren Dutton Esq at the Old South Church —

On Motion — Voted, that the Selectmen be a Committee to wait on Warren Dutton Esq and in the name of the Town to thank him for the elegant and spirited Oration this Day delivered by him at the request of the Town, upon the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America, in which according to the Institution of the Town, he considered the manners feelings and principles which led to that great National Event— and to request of him a Copy thereof for the Press —

On Motion Voted, that the Gentlemen Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to some one able and learned Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the 4th July A. D. 1806. that Day being the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America wherein the Orator is to consider the feelings manners and principles which led to this great National event as well [294] as the important and happy effects, whether general or domestic which have already or will forever flow from that auspicious Epoch.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved

1806.

At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 10th Day March A :D : 1806 10 OClock A :M :

Prayer was made by Revd Joseph Eckley D.D.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — Read.

Sundry Laws to be read at this Meeting were accordingly read

Stephen Codman Esq
was chosen Moderator by a Hand Vote

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Town Clerk, and the Votes having been brought in and counted, it appeared that —

William Cooper
was chosen Town Clerk for the Year ensuing, and the Oath of Office administered to him by Mr. Justice Bulfinch —

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for 9 Selectmen, and the same having been brought in and counted it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen

Charles Bulfinch Esq
David Tilden Esq
William Porter Esq
Mr John Tileston
Mr Ebenezer Oliver
Jonathan Hunnewell Esq
John May Esq
Francis Wright Esq
John Bray Esq

Adjourned to 3 OClock Afternoon

[**295.**] 3 OClock P :M : Town met

Edward Proctor Esq
Henry Hill Esq
William Smith Esq
William Phillips Esq
Redford Webster Esq.
Thomas Perkins Esq
Mr Samuel Snelling
Mr Benjamin Goddard
Samuel Clap Esq
Mr Ozias Goodwin
Joseph Coolidge Jur Esq
Mr William Mackey

were chosen Overseers of the Poor for the Year ensuing.

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for 24 Fire Wards, when it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen — Viz

Thomas Melvill Esq
Samuel Parkman Esq
Amasa Davis Esq
Henry Jackson Esq
William Scollay Esq
Joseph May Esq
Andrew Cunningham Esq
Samuel Bradford Esq
Joseph Head Esq
Thomas H Perkins Esq
Gen[l] John Winslow Esq
Stephen Codman Esq
John Bray Esq
Mr Thomas Dennie
Gen[l] Simon Elliot Esq
Jonathan Hunnewell Esq
Daniel Messenger Esq
Mr Ozias Goodwin
Mr Thomas Curtis
Joshua Davis Jun[r] Esq
Mr John D Howard
Mr Benjamin Coats
William Sullivan Esq
Mr Benjamin Smith

[**296.**] Voted, that in addition to the Selectmen twelve Persons shall now be chosen a SCHOOL COMMITTEE and the Votes being brought in and sorted, it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen Viz

Hon[b][l] Thomas Dawes Esq
Rev[d] Joseph Eckley DD
Dr Thomas Welch Esq
Rev[d] J T Kirkland DD
Dr Aaron Dexter Esq
William Smith Esq
Arnold Welles Esq
David Green Esq
Hon[b][l] John Phillips Esq
Rev[d] William Emmerson
John Heard Esq
Charles Davis Esq

Voted that the above named Gentlemen who conjunctly with the Selectmen are termed the *School Committee*, be & hereby are

directed to carry the *new System of Education*, which has been adopted by the Town into operation, and said Committee are also authorized and empowered, conjunctly to manage and regulate the Officers and the Government of the Schools and in future to execute all the power relative to the Schools & Schoolmasters, which the Selectmen or such Committee are authorized by the Laws of this Commonwealth or the Votes of the Town to exercise; any former Vote of the Town notwithstanding.

The Votes for a Town Treasurer & Collector of Taxes, being brought in it appeared that

William Smith Esq

was chosen. —

Votes for a Treasurer of the County of Suffolk brought in and counted by the Moderator & Town Clerk when it appeared that the whole number was 213 & that they were all for Ebenezer Sever Esq a discreet suitable person & a Freeholder and Resident in said County.

[**297.**] Votes for a County Register of Deeds, for Suffolk brought in and counted, when it appeared that the whole number was 282 — all for William Alline Esq a discreet suitable Person and a Freeholder & Resident in said County.

The Votes being brought in for a Town Advocate for the Municipal Court it appeared that

Honbl John Phillips Esq

was chosen

Messrs. Benjamin White
Moses Ayers
Daniel Ingersol Jur
William Darracot

were chosen Fence Viewers for the Year ensuing

Messrs. Barney Conner
James Cabbit [Corbitt?]

were chosen Haywards for the Year ensuing

Messrs. Samuel Emmons
James Phillips

were chosen Surveyors of Hemp for the Year ensuing.

Edward Tuckerman Esq
Mr Josiah Snelling

were chosen Surveyors of Wheat for the Year ensuing

Mess John Wells
William Cooper Hunneman

were chosen Assay Masters for the Year ensuing

Mess Jonathan Cushing
Joseph Doble
Elisha Turner
Thomas Barbour
were chosen Cullers of Dry Fish for the ensuing Year

Henry Purket Esq
Capt Lemuel Gardner
Mr Thomas Barbour
Mr James Eunson
were chosen Cullers of Hoops & Staves for the Year ensuing

The Selectmen
were chosen Surveyors of High Ways for the Year ensuing

[298.] Mr Edward Rumney
was chosen Inspector of Stone Lime for the Year ensuing

Messrs Benjamin White
John Cogswell
Daniel Ingersol Ju^{r}
William Clouston
William Darracot
William Ellison
John Butterfield
Nathl Bradlee Ju^{r}
Noah Dogget
Caleb Coolidge
Braddock Loring
Edward Alline
Thomas Christy
William Green
were chosen Surveyors of Boards & Shingles for the Year ensuing

Voted, that the Hon^{bl} Thomas Dawes Esq
Joseph Russell Esq
Samuel Brown Esq
be and hereby are appointed a Committee to Audit the Accompts of the Town Treasurer & also the Overseers of the Poor & the Board of Health; and said Committee are also directed to report the Sums necessary to be raised for the services of the present Year

Voted that the consideration of all Money Matters be referred to May Meeting

The Article in the Warrant Viz "To determine whether the Town will consider it expedient to take any measures relative to the rebuilding of the Rope Walks at the bottom of the Common"

read — whereupon Voted that the Selectmen be a Committee to consider this matter and Report thereon at the Adjournment.

Capt Chapman having declined serving as a Selectman, Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given him for his good services in that Office for a number of Years past.

Mr Gray & Mr Quincy having declined serving as a School Committee, Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given them for their good services while on the Committee

[**299.**] Mr Judah Hayes & R G Amory Esq having declined serving as Fire Wards, had the Thanks of the Town for their good services while in the Office of Fire Wards

A letter of Samuel Parkman Esq acquainting the Selectmen that he had obtained an elegant full length Portrait of the Immortal Washington copied by an eminent Artist from an original painting by the celebrated Stuart, and desiring them to present the Picture in his Name to the Town of Boston, to be placed in a conspicuous part of Faneuil Hall — having been read — it was moved and voted that this valuable and pleasing donation is gratefully accepted by the Town, and ordered to be placed in Faneuil Hall agreeable to the Patriotic intention of the Donor

Adjourned to Wednesday the 19th of March Inst 1806 10 OClock A. M.

Wednesday the 19th of March A : D : 1806 10 OClock A : M : Met according to adjournment

Major Bray having by letter declined serving in the Office of Selectman into which he had been chosen — The Town Voted, to proceed immediately to the choice of another and the Votes being brought in for one Selectmen it appeared that

Deacon Joseph Kettell

was chosen

The Selectmen having been directed to consider the subject of the Rebuilding the Rope Walks at the bottom of the Common, Report

That the Town in 1794 granted to the Proprietors of the late Rope Walks the ground on which they stood, for that purpose and no other use whatever; and that the Proprietors have done nothing to forfeit their right of rebuilding upon their complying with the terms and conditions of the grant from the Town to be explained as follows

That they make and forever maintain a good and sufficient Sea Wall at the South of their Ropewalks to be kept in good repair

to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen—That such Proprietors shall build a Brick Store, or Head to his Rope Walks 30 feet wide in front, and at least two Stories high—That such Proprietors shall build his Yarn [**300**] and Tar House & Coppers, in such situation and in such manner as the Fire Wards shall direct.

Under these conditions and subject to the Restrictions of the law regulating the erection of Buildings in this Town, the Committee confide in every reasonable measure to be adopted to secure the Town from danger from the Ropewalks that may in future be built on that ground—

The foregoing Report having been read and debate had thereon—the Question was put, and the Report accepted—

On application of a number of Inhabitants one Surveyor of Boards &c, was added to those already chosen—and the Votes, being brought in, it appeared that

Mr Eleazer Homer

was chosen

Voted that any other matter unfinished be referred to May Meeting

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given to Stephen Codman Esq. for his good services as Moderator—

Then the Meeting was Dissolved

[**301.**] At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of 21 years of age and upwards qualified as the Constitution prescribes and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 7th Day April Anno Domini 1806 9 OClock A : M :

Prayer was made by the Revd Mr Emerson.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — Read

Paragraphs of the Constitution or Frame of Government relative to the choice of Governor, Lieut Governor and Senators — Read

It was then declared by the Selectmen that no Vote should be received but such as are unfolded, and that they propose the Poll should be closed at 2 OClock P : M : the Votes to be received at the Table and the Bells to begin ringing at ½ past 1 OClock and to continue for half an Hour

Persons Voted for as Governour, with the number of Votes for each Person Viz

	Votes
His Excellency Caleb Strong Esq	2503
Honbl James Sullivan Esq	1605
Honbl Elbridge Gerry	6

Persons Voted, for as LIEUT GOVERNOUR, with the number of Votes for each Person Viz - - - - - - - - - - - Votes

Honb[l] Edward H Robbins Esq	2444
Honb[l] William Heath Esq	1650
Honb[l] Henry Knox	3
Honb[l] David Cobb	2

Person Voted for as Senators for the County of Suffolk with the number of Votes for each Person Viz - - - - - - Votes

Honb[l] Chris[r] Gore Esq	2489
Honb[l] Harrison G Otis Esq	2472
D[r] William Spooner Esq	2452
Honb[l] John Phillips Esq	2484
Peter C Brooks	2472
[302.] Honb[l] David Tilden Esq	1684
Russell Sturgis Esq	1626
Edward Proctor Esq	1632
Samuel Clap Esq	1625
David Townsend Esq	1622

Attested Copies of the Persons Voted for as GOVERNOUR LIEUT GOVERNOUR and SENATORS, for the County of Suffolk sealed up in Town Meeting after the Votes had been declared, and transmitted to the Secretary of this Commonwealth

Superscribed as follows Viz

For John Avery Esquire
Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The number of Votes of the Town of Boston for, Governour Lieut Governour & five Senators for the County of Suffolk, Certified within and Sealed up in Town Meeting after the Votes had been declared

Then the Meeting was Dissolved

[303.] At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of 21 Years of Age and upwards qualified as the Constitution prescribes and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 4th Day of May A : D : 1806 9 O Clk A : M :

The Meeting was opened with Prayer by Rev[d] Dr Kirkland

Warrant for calling the Meeting — Read

That part of the Constitution or frame of Government which relates to the choice of Representatives — Read

The Town having determined by a Vote to choose 27 Persons to Represent them in the General Court of Massachusetts to be held in the State House in Boston on the last Wednesday of May Current agreeable to the Constitution or Frame of Government — for Massachusetts; The Inhabitants were directed by the Selectmen to withdraw and bring in their Votes for 27 Representatives, and then it was declared by the Selectmen, that no Votes would be received by them but such as are unfolded and untill the names of the Persons entering shall be marked on the List by the Gentlemen who assist for that purpose from the several Wards and that they propose the Poll shall be closed at 2 OClock, the Bells to begin ringing at ½ past 1 OClock and to continue untill 2 OClock

The Votes being brought in for 27 Representatives the whole number was found to be 1258 and upon sorting them it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen, having obtained a majority of the Votes Viz't

		Votes
	William Smith Esq	1242
	Jonathan Hunnewell Esq	1237
	William Sullivan Esq	1241
	John Wells Esq	1238
	Jonathan Mason Esq	1238
	Thomas H Perkins Esq	1238
	William Brown Esq	1230
	Samuel Parkman Esq	1230
	John Winslow Esq	1242
	Edward Tuckerman Esq	1238
	Deacon Francis Wright Esq	1239
	Redford Webster Esq	1238
	Thomas Perkins Esq	1242
	Daniel Sargent Esq	1240
	William Phillips Esq	1239
[304.]	Stephen Codman Esq	1232
	Simon Elliot Esq	1240
	Benjamin Russell Esq	1231
	Mr Thomas W Sumner	1236
	John Callander Esq	1233
	Dr Thomas Danforth	1237
	John T Apthorp Esq	1236
	Charles Davis Esq	1223
	Mr Benjamin Goddard	1227
	Mr Thomas K Jones	1236
	Benjamin Whitman Esq	1192
	Mr James Lloyd Ju^r Esq	1239

The choice of Representatives being over and declared by the Selectmen

The Meeting was Dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified & legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 15th Day of May Anno Domini 1806 10 O Clock A : M :

Warrant for calling Meeting — Read.

Honbl Thomas Dawes Esq
was chosen Moderator by a Hand Vote

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for 6 Trustees for Towns Land, on the Neck, in addition to the Selectmen who conjunctly, are to Lease and manage said Lands in such manner as shall appear to them best for the interest of the Town — the Votes being brought in and sorted, it appeared that

Honbl Thomas Dawes Esq
Genl John Winslow
Honbl William Brown Esq
Joshua Davis Jur Esq
Honbl William Phillips Esq
Edward Tuckerman Esq

were chosen.

[**305.**] At a legal Meeting of Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston at Faneuil Hall on Monday 10th day of March A : D : 1806 10 OClock A : M : Voted that the Subscribers "be and hereby are appointed a Committee to Audit the Accompts of the Town Treasurer Overseers of the Poor & the Board of Health; and said Committee are directed to report the sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present Year," having attended that service they submit the following Report viz

	Dols Cts
The Treasurer Credits the Town of Boston with sundry sums of Money received by him to the Amt of	91998,67
The Treasurer Charges the Town with the sum of - including a balance in the hands of the Treasurer of $1213,37 May 8th carried to new Account as represented in paper No 1	91998,67

Paper N° 2 contains the particulars of Cash paid on sundry Drafts from June 1805 to April 1806 as p^r Acct Curr^t - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	4788.91
Ballance due to sundry Persons - - -	1085.98
and amount of Moneys paid the Proprietors of S° Boston Bridge by Note p^r Order of the Selectmen -	2277.
	51251.89
By amt of outstanding debts p^r the late Treasurer's Books - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	484.49
By sundry drafts from the Selectmen from June 1805 to April 1806 pr Acc^t Curr^t Amounting to -	50767.40
	51251.89
Selectmens Drafts	
Amt of Cash paid on sundry drafts p^r Acct Current from June 1805 to April 1806 - - - - -	10397. 3
Ballance due to sundry persons - - - - - - -	2419.48
	12816.51
To Cash paid on sundry drafts from June 1805 to April 1806 p^r Account Current - - - - - -	3301.75
To Ballance due to sundry persons - - - - - -	59.83
	3361.58
Represents the Statement of State and County Taxes	
To Cash paid into the State Treasury from June 1805 to April 1806 - - - - - - - - - - -	$17672. 0
To Am^t due the State - - - - - - - -	17718. 0
To Cash paid Ebenezer Seaver C° Treasurer from June 1805 to April 1806 p^r Acct Curr^t - - - - -	10730.73
Amount due the County of Suffolk - - - - - -	6873.70
	$17604.43
[**306.**] Paper N° 4 Represents the Statement of Taxes for 1803	
Amount due by the late Treasurers Books - - -	$1253.59
By Amt outstanding on Sundry drafts on the late Treasurers Books - - - - - - - - - - - - -	516. 3
By Sundry drafts from the Overseers from April 1805 to June 1806 - - - - - - - - - - - -	12300.48
	12816.51

By Sundry Drafts from the Board of Health from April 1805 to June 1806 Amounting to - - -	3361.58
By Amt due the Commonwealth by the late Treasurers Books - - - - - - - - - - - - -	$17672."
State Tax for 1805 Amt Assessed - - - - - -	17718."

County Tax for 1805

By Amt due on this Tax to the County as by the late Treasurers Books - - - - - - - - - - -	3765.43
Tax for 1805 p^{r} Amt Assessed - - - - - - -	13839."
	$17604.43

By Cash received from June 26 to April 30th 1806 as p^{r} Account Current - - - - - - - - - -	135.61
By abatement - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	4.10
By ballance due - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1113.88
	$1253.59
Tax for 1805 due p^{r} the late Treasurers Books	$22262.99

Tax for 1805 Amt Assessed - - - - - - - - -		$96557."
Ballance of Tax 1803 - - - - - -	$1113.88	
Ballance of Tax 1804 - - - - - -	8790.57	
Ballance of Tax 1805 - - - - - -	34475.40	
	$44379.85	

Paper N° 5 Represents the Income of the Towns Rents Viz	
Old State House p^{r} Year - - - - - - - - - -	4900. "
Market Square p^{r} Year - - - - - - - - - - -	520. "
4 Stalls at $2 p^{r} Week - - - - - - - - - - -	416. "
4 D° at $1.50 p^{r} D° - - - - - - - - - - - -	312. "
Deer Island p^{r} Year - - - - - - - - - - - -	300· "
Hay Market Income about - - - - - - - - - -	200. "
Salt Marsh - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	105. "
	$6753. 0

[**307.**] By Cash received from June 26 1805 to April 30th 1806 as p^{r} Acct Current - - - - -	13274.3
By abatements - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	198.39
By ballance due - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	8790.57
	$22262.99

By Cash received from October 1st 1805 to April 30th 1806 as pr Acct Current - - - -		$59355.78
By abatements - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		568.95
By premiums allowed Octr - - - -	$1238.1	
Novemr - - -	777.87	
Decemr - - -	67.22	- 2156.87
Jany - - - -	33.14	
Febry - - -	40.63	- -
Ballance due - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		34,475.40
		$96,557. "

Paper N° 6 Represents Amounts of Notes due Sundry Persons

Viz Benjamin Barker - - - - - -	1544.17	
Eliz Partridge - - - - - - -	772.8	
Selectmen of Boston - - - -	1230. "	
Estate of Jn° Gray - - - - -	107. "	
Mary Hammond - - - - - - -	1050. "	
Union Bank - - - - - - - -	8000. "	
Tuthill Hubbart - - - - - -	3333.33	
Russell Sturgis - - - - - - -	2800. "	
S° Boston Bridge Corpa - - - -	2277. "	
Union Bank - - - - - - - -	1200. "	
		$22313.58

Paper N° 7 Represents Tryal Ballance

Towns Powder - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		1041.95
Town Treasurers - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		6403.29
William Tewksbury - - - - - - - - - - - - -		210.82
Notes Receivable - - - - - - - - - - - - -		754.13
1803 Tax - - - - - - - - - - - -	1113.88	
1804 - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	8790.57	
1805 - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	34475.40	
		44379.85
Cash Account - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		1213.37
		$54003.41

[308.] Notes payable - - - - - - - - - -	22313.58
State Tax - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	17718. "
County Tax - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	6873.50
Outstanding debts - - - - - - - - - - - - -	7098.33
	$54003.41

Paper N° 8 Represents the Estimate for 1806

School Masters - - - - - - - - - - - - -	13000. "
Town Watch - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	6500. "
Town Treasurers & Collector - - - - - - - -	1500. "
Assessors 3 at $8.16 each - - - - - - - - -	2448. "
Police Officers - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1000. "
Constables Services - - - - - - - - - - - -	300. "
Engines premiums Repaims &c - - - - - - - -	600. "
Monies Voted by Town to Mr Hunt - - - - - -	2500. "
Repairs of Schools & Firewood - - - - - - -	1100. "
Lamps Oil & Lighting - - - - - - - - - - -	5000. "
Town Clerk - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	666.66
Messenger of Selectmen - - - - - - - - - - -	300–"
Judge of Municipal Court & Advocate - - - -	700–"
Printing & Stationery - - - - - - - - - - -	400–"
Bells and Clocks - - - - - - - - - - - - -	400–"
Incidental Charges - - - - - - - - - - - -	1285–"
Paving Streets - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	8000–"
	46000–"
Besides the above current charges there is due the Amt of award for widening Merchants Row after deducting Subscriptions - - - - -	5000–"
Towards Expence of Enlarging Faneuil Hall - -	10000. "
For Overseers of the Poor - - - - - - - - - -	15000. "
For Board of Health - - - - - - - - - - - -	4000. "
Amount of Estimate	$80000. "

The Committee find the aforementioned Accounts to be well vouched and right cast (so far as they have time to proceed in the Business) all which will clearly appear from the Accounts exhibited when compared with the Books.

The Committee advise that the Statements by Mr. Treasurer Smith as reported be Recorded in the Town Book that is kept in the Selectmens Office, and the said record be [**309**] compaired with said Accompts, as there have been several Treasurers within a few years many advantages may arise by having recourse to such records.

The Committee further report that from Estimates received there will be wanting for the Selectmen including $10,000 towards

repairing Faneuil Hall - - - - - - - - - - -	61.000 – "
For the Overseers of the Poor - - - - - - - -	15000 – "
For the Board of Health - - - - - - - - - -	4000 – "
Making	$80 000 – "

They therefore are of oppinion that the Town of Boston Vote a

Tax for $80,000 according to law for the above mentioned purposes; which is humbly submitted.

Thomas Dawes } Comm^tee
Samuel Brown }

N. B. It will be remembered that in addition to the above Eighty Thousand Dollars There will be a State Tax for the Seventeen Thousand D° and for County Tax Ten Thousand D°. making in the whole One Hundred and seven Thousand Dollars to be assessed for the Current Year.

The aforegoing Report having been read and considered — the Question was put "Whether the same shall be accepted" — Passed in the Affirmative — and on Motion Voted that the additional Sum of ten thousand Dollars, be appropriated for widening and improving Battery March Street and other Streets of the Town to be applied under the direction of the Selectmen

Voted, that Eighty Thousand Dollars making with the above appropriation the sum of 90,000 Dollars be raised by a Tax to be assessed on the Polls and Estates of the Inhabitants of this Town to defray the Expences of the Current Year.

Voted, that the Sum of $300 — be allowed and paid to the Honb^l John Phillips Esq for his services as Town Advocate the Year ensuing.

Voted that the sum of $816 be allowed and paid to each of the three Assessors for the ensuing Year.

Voted, that the Honb^l William Smith Esq be allowed and paid as Town Treasurer & Collector of Taxes for the present Year the Sum of $1500 — he to pay his Clerk, Assistant, Office hire, and all expences of office.

[**310.**] Voted that the Selectmen, be empowered and directed to make the Town Clerk such Grants for Salary and the rise of Provisions as shall be equal to what has been allowed the Masters of the Writing Schools for the time past and the present Year —

Voted that the Thanks of the Town be given The Honb^l Tom^s Dawes Esq for his good services as Moderator —

Then the Meeting was Dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Friday the 4th Day of July A:D: 1806 9 OClock A:M:

Warrant for calling Meeting - - Read

William Cooper
was chosen Moderator

The Committee appointed the last year to make choice of Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the Anniversary of Independence

Reported, that they had made choice of Francis Dana Channing Esq, who has accepted of the appointment —

On Motion Adjourned to the Old South Church, when

AN ORATION

to commemorate the Independence of the United States, was delivered by Francis Dana Channing Esq at the Old South Church —

On Motion Voted that the Selectmen be a Committee to wait on Francis Dana Channing Esq and in the Name of the Town to thank him for the Elegant and Spirited Oration this day delivered by him at the request of the Town upon the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America in which according to the Intention of the Town he considered the manners feelings and principles which led to that great National Event — and to request of him a Copy for the Press —

On Motion Voted, that the Gentlemen Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to some able [**311**] and learned Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the 4th July A:D: 1807, that Day being the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America, wherein the Orator is to consider the feelings manners and principles which led to this great National Event; as well as the important and happy effects whether general or domestic which have already, or will forever flow from that auspicious Epoch —

Then the Meeting was Dissolved

At a meeting of Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on the 3d Day of November A:D: 1806 9 OClock A:M:

Prayer was made by Revd Mr Lowell —

Warrant for calling Meeting - - - - - - - - - Read

Paragraph of a Resolve of the General Court for the choice of one Representative for the Suffolk District of this Commonwealth in the Congress of the United States &c Read

It was then declared by the Selectmen that the Poll would be closed at 2 OClock P:M: the Bells to begin tolling at ½ past 1 OClock.

Persons Voted for as Representative for the Suffolk District in this Commonwealth in the next Congress of the United States — Viz

Honbl Josiah Quincy Esq Sixteen hundred seventy three Votes
James Prince Esq Nine hundred & two Votes
Honbl William Eustice Esq Three Votes
Mr Caleb Bingham One D°

and declaration made thereof in the Meeting by the Selectmen a return of the doings of this Meeting, made out and put into the hands of Mr Sheriff Allen to be given to the Honbl Jonathan L Austin Esq Secretary of this Commonwealth, which return was in exact conformity to the one inserted in the last Town Officer.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved

[**312.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 29th Day of December A:D: 1806 — 10 OClock A:M:

Warrant for calling Meeting ——— Read

Joseph Russell Esq
chosen Moderator by a Hand Vote —

The article in the Warrant viz "To take measures for renewing the Jury Box, according to law — Read — and after consideration — Voted, that the Selectmen be a Committee to regulate the Jury Boxes—from the Names laid before the Town for that purpose—

The article in the Warrant "To consider & act upon the claim of the Heirs of the late Governour Hancock to Land on Beacon Hill" — read whereupon Voted, that the Selectmen be a committee to examine and search into this claim employing such Counsel as they shall Judge proper — and report at March Meeting.

On the Application of Messrs Stutson & Seth Thayer for a portion of a Passage way leading to Ann Street &c —

Voted that this article in the Warrant, be referred to the Gentlemen Firewards, who are desired to Report thereon at March Meeting.

The article in Warrant. viz "To choose one or more Agents to appear in behalf of the Town to defend a Suit instituted by Oliver Wendell Esq for recovery of Land & Flatts in Battery March Street being part of the S° Battery & Flatts before the same, conveyed and warranted by the Town to the late John Rowe Esq in the Year 1785" — was read whereupon

Voted, that the Selectmen be and hereby are authorized and empowered to be Agents for the Town in this Matter, they to employ such Counsel as they may Judge to be needful —

The article in the Warrant "To empower the Trustees of the Neck Land, to make an exchange of Land with Messrs Isaac P Davis & William Pain, to render the boundary line between them and the Town more convenient — read & considered whereupon

Voted, that the Trustees of the Neck Land be authorized and empowered to make such exchange of Land with Messrs Isaac P Davis & Comp^y as will promote the Interest of [**313**] the Town in the arrangement of the Lots, and for that purpose they be authorized to execute Deeds, to convey so much of the Town Land as may be necessary & to receive of Messrs Davis & Comp^y a good and sufficient Deed of so much of their Land, as in the Judgment of said Trustees may be just and right.

The article in the Warrant "To empower the Trustees of the Neck Land to locate a suitable place on the Neck for a Meeting House & Burying Ground — was read — whereupon

Voted, that the Trustees of the Neck Land be authorized and empowered to lay out and assigne a piece or pieces of Land in suitable situations on the Neck for a Meeting House Lot and Burying Ground, and that they be empowered to execute Deeds to convey so much of said Lands as may be necessary to any religeous Association who shall first undertake to build and shall erect a place of religious worship —

On the article in the Warrant to confirm the proceedings of the Selectmen with Jonathan Harris Esq relative to a piece of Land & Water Course in Water Street —

Voted, that the Town would ratify and confirm the agreement made with Jonathan Harris Esq and for that purpose the Selectmen are authorized & empowered to execute and receive such Deeds & Instruments as may be necessary —

Matters unfinished refered to March Meeting

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given Honb^l Joseph Russell Esqr for the good dispatch given by him as Moderator to the business of the Meeting

Then the Meeting was Dissolved

1807.

[**314.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 9th Day of March A:D: 1807 10 OClock A:M:

Prayer was made by Revd Mr Eaton

Warrant for calling the Meeting - - Read

Sundry Laws to be read at this Meeting were accordingly (part of them) read

Stephen Codman Esqr was chosen Moderator by a Hand Vote, but by his desire was excused on account of a Cold

Honbl Joseph Russell Esqr
was chosen Moderator of the Meeting & took the Chair accordingly.

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for a Town Clerk and the same being brought in and counted it appeared that

William Cooper
was chosen Town Clerk for the Year ensuing, and took the Oath of Office, which was administered to him by Mr Justice Bulfinch

The Inhabitants, were desired to withdraw and bring in their Votes for 9 Selectmen, and the same having been brought in and counted, it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen — Viz

Charles Bulfinch Esqr.	Jonathan Hunnewell Esqr
David Tilden Esqr	John May Esqr
William Porter Esqr	Francis Wright Esqr
Mr Ebenezer Oliver	Deacon Joseph Kettle

Mr Jonathan Chapman

Previous to the counting the Votes for Selectmen a Motion was made, which did not obtain, that a Committee might be chosen to assist the Selectmen in counting and sorting their Votes.—

A Motion was also made & Voted, that the Poll for choice of Selectmen, be closed, at ½ past 12 OClock, but another that no Votes be counted untill the Poll was closed did not obtain —

[**315.**] Adjourned untill 3 OClock P.M.

3 OClock P :M : Town Met

Edward Proctor Esq	Mr Samuel Snelling
Henry Hill Esq	Mr Benjamin Goddard
William Smith Esq	Samuel Clap Esq
William Phillips	Mr Ozias Goodwin
Dr Redford Webster Esq	Mr William Mackey
Thomas Perkins Esq	Joseph Cooledge Jur Esq

were chosen Overseers of the Poor for the Year ensuing

Thomas Melvill Esq	Gen[l] Simon Elliot Esq
Amasa Davis Esq	Jonathan Hunnewell Esq
Henry Jackson Esq	Daniel Messenger Esq
Joseph May Esq	Mr Ozias Goodwin
Andrew Cunningham Esq	Mr. Thomas Curtis
Samuel Bradford Esq	Joshua Davis Jur Esq
Joseph Head Esq	Mr John D Howard
Thomas H Perkins Esq	Mr Benjamin Coates
Gen[l] John Winslow Esq	William Sullivan Esq
Stephen Codman Esq	Mr Benjamin Smith
John Bray Esq	John T Apthorp Esq
Mr Thomas Dennie	Ignatius Sargent Esq

were chosen Fire Wards for the Year ensuing

[**316.**] On Motion Voted that the Thanks of the Town be given to Mr John Tileston for his good services as a Selectman, a number of Years past

Voted that the Thanks of the town be given to Samuel Parkman & William Scollay Esq for their good services as Fire Wards, a number of Years past

The Votes for a Town Advocate in the room of Honb[l] John Phillips Esq who had resigned that Office; being brought in counted and sorted, it appeared that

Peter Thatcher Esq

was chosen into that Office

Voted, that in addition to the Selectmen 12 Persons shall now be chosen a School Committee and the Votes being brought in and sorted it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen Viz

Honb[l] Thomas Dawes Esq
Rev[d] Joseph Eckly D D
Dr Thomas Welch Esq
Rev[d] J T Kirkland D D
Dr Aaron Dexter Esq
William Smith Esq
Arnold Wells Esq
David Green Esq

Honb[l] John Phillips Esq
Rev[d] William Emerson
John Heard Esq
Charles Davis Esq

Voted, that the above named Gentlemen who conjunctly with the Selectmen are termed, *the School Committee* be and hereby are directed to carry the new *System of Education* which has been adopted by the Town into operation, and said Comm[ee] are also authorized and empowered *conjunctly* to manage and regulate the officers, and the Government of the Schools, and in future to execute all the Powers relative to the Schools & Schoolmasters, which the Selectmen or such Committee were authorized by the Laws of the Commonwealth or the Votes of the Town to exercise, any former Votes of the Town notwithstanding

[317.] The Votes for a Town Treasurer & Collector of Taxes, being brought in & sorted, it appeared that

William Smith Esq

was chosen —

Votes for a Treasurer of the County of Suffolk brought in and counted by the Moderator & Town Clerk when it appeared that the whole number was 306 and that they were all for Ebenezer Sever Esq a discreet suitable Person, and a Freeholder and resident in said County

Messrs Benjamin White
Moses Ayers
Daniel Ingersol Ju[r]

were chosen Fence Viewers for the Year ensuing

Messrs Barney Connor
Joseph Cobbit

were chosen Hogreeves for the Year ensuing

Messrs Barney Connor
Joseph Cobbit

were chosen Haywards for the Year ensuing

Messrs Samuel Emmons
James Phillips

were chosen Surveyors of Hemp for the Year ensuing.

Edward Tuckerman Esq
Mr Josiah Snelling

were chosen Surveyors of Hemp for the Year ensuing

Messrs John Wells
William Cooper Hunneman

were chosen Assay Masters for the Year ensuing

Messrs Jonathan Cushing
Joseph Doble
Thomas Barbour
David Rich
were chosen Cullers of Dry Fish for the Year ensuing

Henry Purkit Esq
Capt Lemuel Gardner
Mr Thomas Barbour
Mr James Eunson
were chosen Cullers of Hoops and Staves for Year ensuing

[318.] The Selectmen
were chosen Surveyors of the Highways for the Year ensuing.

Mess Benjamin White	Mess Noah Dogget
John Cogswell	Caleb Coolidge
Eleazer Homer	John Butterfield
William Green	Daniel Ingersoll
Thomas Christy	William Clouston
Edward Alline	William Ellison
Nath[l] Bradley Jur	Joseph Stodder

Braddock Loring
were chosen Surveyors of Boards & Shingles for the Year ensuing.

Voted that Honb[l] Thomas Dawes Esq
Joseph Russell Esq
Samuel Brown Esq
be and hereby are appointed a Committee to Audit the Accounts of the Town Treasurer and also those of the Overseers of the Poor; and the Board of Health; and said Committee are directed to Report the Sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present Year —

Voted, that the consideration of all Money Matters be referred to May Meeting —

Voted, that all Matters, unfinished at this Meeting be referred to May Meeting.

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given to Joseph Russell Esq for his good services as Moderator of this Meeting —

Then the Meeting was Dissolved

[319.] At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of 21 Years of age and upwards, qualified as the Constitution prescribes & Legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 6th Day of April Anno Domini 1807 9, O'Clock A : M :

Prayer was made by the Rev^{d} Dr Lothrop —

The Town Clerk informed the Meeting, that all the Gentlemen chosen Selectmen for the present Year agreeable to a late Act of the General Court qualified themselves for that Office by taking the following Oath Viz "That they would faithfully and impartially discharge the duties of their Office respecting all Elections and the returns thereof" which Oath was administered to them by John Gardner Esq Justice of the Peace

Att William Cooper Town Clerk

Warrant for calling the Meeting — Read

Paragraph of the Constitution or Frame of Government relative to the choice of Governor Lt Governor & Senators — Read

It was then declared by the Selectmen that no Votes shall be received but such as are unfolded, and that they propose the Poll should be closed at 2 OClock the Bells to begin tolling at ½ past 1 OClock and to continue for ½ an Hour — the Names to be marked off before given in

Persons Voted for as GOVERNOUR with the number of Votes for each Person

	Votes
His Excellency Caleb Strong Esq	3149
Honb^{l} James Sullivan Esq	2806
Elbridge Gerry Esq	5
Harrison G Otis Esq	1
Theodore Sedgwick	1
Thomas Lewis	1
Charles P Sumner Esq	1
Benj^{a} Austin Esq	1

Persons Voted for as Lieut Governour with the number of Votes for each Person Viz

	Votes
Honb^{l} Edward H Robins Esq	3110
Honb^{l} Levi Lincoln Esq	2108
George Cabot Esq	2
David Cobb Esq	2
[320.] John C Jones Esq	3
John Q Adams Esq	4
William Eustis Esq	1
Richard Edwards	1
Elbridge Gerry Esq	1
Thomas O Selfridge	1

Persons Voted, for as Senators for the County of Suffolk with the number of Votes for each Person Viz

	Votes
Honbl Harrison Gray Otis Esq	3063
Honbl Christopher Gore Esq	3146
Honbl William Spooner Esq	3132
Honbl John Phillips Esq	3140
Honbl Peter C Brooks	3133
Honbl William Eustis Esq	2112
Honbl David Tilden Esq	2110
Samuel Brown Esq	2110
Russell Sturgis Esq	2104
Col[n] Edward Proctor	2103
Thomas Lewis	1
Thomas H Perkins	1
James Sullivan Esq	1
Thomas K Jones	1
James Lloyd	1
Benj[a] Russell	1
Dr John Warren	2
Oliver Wendell Esq	1
Capt John Prince	1
Stephen Higginson Esq	1
Jonathan Mason Esq	1
Thomas Welch	1
John Wells Esq	1
Augustus Hunt	1
Dr David Townsend	2
Stephen Gorham Esq	1
John Tileston	1
Samuel Clap	1
James Prince Esq	1
Benj[a] Bussey	1
John Winslow Esq	1
Henderson Inches	1
Stephen Thayer	1

Attested Copies or returns of the Persons Voted for as GOVERNOR L[T] GOVERNOR & Senators for the County of Suffolk, sealed up in Town Meeting after the Votes had been declared; to be transmitted to the Secretary of the Commonwealth as prescribed by law and directed as follows Viz

For Honbl Jonathan L Austin Esqr
Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The number of Votes of the Town of Boston for *Governour* Lu[t] *Governour* & Five Senators for the County of Suffolk, Certified within and sealed up in Town Meeting after the [**321**] Votes had been declared.—

Then the Meeting was *Dissolved*

At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of 21 Years of age and upwards qualified as the Constitution prescribes & legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 13 Day of May A :D : 1807— 9 OClock A :M :

The Meeting opened with prayer by Revd Dr Elliot

Warrant for calling this Meeting — Read

That part of the Constitution or Frame of Government which relates to the choice of Representatives — Read

The Town having determined by a Vote to choose 27 Persons to represent them in the General Court of Massachusetts to be holden in the State House in Boston on the last Wednesday of May Current, agreeable to the Constitution or Frame of Government for Massachusetts; the Inhabitants were directed by the Selectmen to bring in their Votes for Representatives not exceeding 27; and then it was declared by the Selectmen that no Votes would be received but such as are unfolded and untill the Name of the Person entering shall be marked on the list by the Gentlemen assisting for that purpose from the several Wards, and that they propose the Poll should be closed at ½ past 1 OClock, the Bells to begin ringing half an hour before, and to continue untill the close of the Poll

The Votes being brought in for 27 Representatives the whole number was found to be 880 * and upon sorting them it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen having obtained a majority of the Votes, Viz

		Votes
	William Smith Esq	877
	Jon^a Hunnewell Esq	873
	William Sullivan Esq	879
	John Wells Esq	877
	Jon^a Mason Esq	876
	Thomas H Perkins Esq	874
	William Brown Esq	876
	Samuel Parkman Esq	871
[322.]	John Winslow Esq	871
	Edward Tuckerman Esq	872
	Deacon Francis Wright	873
	Redford Webster Esq	875
	Thomas Perkins Esq	873
	Daniel Sargent Esq	874
	William Phillips Esq	875

*The whole number of votes, and the number for each person voted for, does not appear on the Town Records, but is taken from the original memorandum by the Town Clerk.

Stephen Codman Esq - - - - - - - - - -	874
Simon Elliot Esq - - - - - - - - - - -	872
Benjamin Russell Esq - - - - - - - - - -	874
Mr Thomas W Sumner - - - - - - - - -	871
John Callender Esq - - - - - - - - - -	873
Dr Thomas Danforth - - - - - - - - - -	877
John T Apthorp Esq - - - - - - - - - -	872
Charles Davis Esq - - - - - - - - - - -	872
Mr Benjamin Goddard - - - - - - - - -	875
Mr Thomas Kilby Jones - - - - - - - - -	872
Benjamin Whitman Esq - - - - - - - - -	864
Mr James Lloyd Jur - - - - - - - - - -	876

The choice of Representatives being over and declared by the Selectmen

The Meeting was Dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 14th Day of May Anno Domini 1807 — 10-OClock A:M: —

Warrant for calling Meeting - - - - - - Read

Joseph Russell Esq
was chosen Moderator by a hand Vote

The Inhabitants, were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for 6 Trustees for Towns Lands on the Neck, in addition to the Selectmen, who conjunctly are to manage said Lands, in such manner as shall appear to them best for the Interest of the Town — the Votes being brought in and sorted it appeared that

Honbl Thomas Dawes Esq
[323.] General John Winslow
Honbl William Brown Esq
Joshua Davis Jur Esq
Honbl William Phillips
Edward Tuckerman Esq
were chosen.

Mr John D Howard & John T Apthorp Esq the former having resigned & the latter having declined serving as Fire Wards

Mr Henry Fowle
Mr Samuel Sweet
were chosen in their room.

On Motion Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given to Mr John D Howard, for his good services as Fire Ward several Years past

Mess Benjamin Rice
Allen Bowker
were chosen Surveyors of Boards & Shingles in addition to the 16 before chosen — on application therefore, by a number of Inhabitants —

Mr John Deluce
was chosen into the Office of Hogreeve & Hayward for South Boston

The Article in the Warrant Viz " To consider and act upon the petition of James Ivers and others whether the Town will consent to waive the condition on which the Grant of the Mill Pond was made, and to permit the same to be filled up by the Proprietors; or to any other act & thing respecting the Premises, which may cause or suffer to be effected the purposes therein contemplated" — was read, After long debate thereon — It was moved and Voted that the consideration of this Article with the Petition — be referred to a Committee of five Persons to be chosen by nomination being called for the following Gentlemen were chosen Viz

Joseph Russell
Samuel Brown
Judge Davis
[324.] James Prince
John Wells — Esquires
and said Committee are requested to make Report thereon at the Adjournment of this Meeting

It was then moved & Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to Monday the 25 Day of May Inst 10 O-Clock A: M:

Monday May 25th 10 O-Clock A: M: met according to adjournment.

The Moderator in the Chair

The Selectmen to whom was committed the consideration of the Claim of the Heirs of Governour Hancock to Land on Beacon Hill — ask leave to Report

That they have examined the Town Records relative to this subject, have conferred with the Claimants and examined their Deeds, and have advised with the most eminent counsel — and after all the investigation in their power they find that the Town has been possessed of a certain portion of the Hill from the earliest period of its settlement — that the Deeds to Thomas Hancock do not comprise the other part of the Hill now Claimed by the Applicants but that the Town has been long in the use and uninterrupted possession of it

The Selectmen therefore propose, that the Town should empower Agents to maintain and defend their right to said Land

and to prosecute all encroachments or trespasses that may be made on the same —

The aforegoing Report having been read it was accepted by the Town and the Gentlemen Selectmen were appointed Agents on the business and are fully empowered to maintain and defend the Towns right in said Land—

The Committee of Fire Wards, on the Petition of Amasa Stutson & Seth Thayer, Reported, that it was their unanimous opinion that the prayer of the petition should not be granted — and the question being put for accepting this report — it was accepted by the Town accordingly —

The Votes, being brought in for a School [**325**] Committee Member in the room of Col° Thomas Dawes who had resigned — it appeared that

John Davis Esq

was chosen.

Votes being bronght in for one Trustee of the Towns Lands on the Neck — in the room of Col^n Dawes who had resigned it appeared that

William Hammet Esq

was chosen

On Motion Voted unanimously that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to the Hon^bl Thomas Dawes Esq for his good and faithfull services in the several Offices he has sustained for a long course of Years past —

The Committee on Petition relative to filling up the Mill Pond — Reported, and the same having been read it was moved and Voted, that this Report be referred to another Meeting for consideration, and that the same be published in all the Papers —

Moved & Voted, that the foregoing Vote be so far altered, as that the said Report be printed in Hand Bills and distributed among the Inhabitants for a more full inspection, before the Adjournment of this Meeting

The Committee on Town Treasnrers Accompts and other Money Matters — Reported — and thereupon it was moved & voted, that said Report be printed in hand bills and distributed amongst the Inhabitants for their inspection

The application of the Judge of the Municipal Court for further Compensation — was read — and on motion Voted that

James Prince Esq
John Wells Esq
Samuel Brown Esq

be a Committee to whom this Matter is referred for consideration and to Report at the Adjournment

Adjourned to Monday 8th of June next 10 OClock A :M :

[**326.**] Monday the 8th of June 1807 10 O-Clock A :M : Met according to Adjournment

An Application of a number of Inhabitants for another Hayward to be appointed for the Southern part of the Town more especially the Neck

Joseph Bacon

was chosen a Hayward for the present Year

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the application of the Honbl Thomas Dawes Junr Judge of the Municipal Court for the Town of Boston for an augmentation of his Salary — Report that in their opinion the Salary of Judge Dawes should be augmented to Seven Hundred & fifty Dollars per Annum

James Prince per order

The aforegoing Report having been read and considered the Question was put, whether this Report be accepted by the Town — Passed in the Affirmative —

The Report of the Committee relative to filling up the Mill Pond, which had been printed in hand bills for the inspection of the Inhabitants — was read several times and after long debate — the Question was put — Whether this Report shall be accepted — which passed in the Negative —

Whereupon it was moved & Voted, That a Committee of seven be appointed as Commissioners on the part of the Town with full powers to meet such person or persons as may be appointed in behalf of the Mill Proprietors with equal powers, and to treat and negotiate with them for a relinquishment of all the rights and claims of the Town to the Mill Pond and Lands under the same or parts thereof and to conclude & bargain for the same on such terms and conditions as they may Judge most for the interest of the Town, and the doings of said Commitee when duly ratified & confirmed by the Town & Mill Proprietors shall be binding forever upon all parties. — also

Voted, the Selectmen nominate and appoint the Commissioners on the part of the Town

[**327.**] Adjourned to Monday the 15th of June Ins — 10 OClock A :M :

Monday the 15th June 10 o-Clock A :M : Met according to adjournment

The Town having at their late Meeting 8th Inst impowered the Selectmen to nominate & appoint seven Commissioners to treat and negotiate with the Mill Corporation as fully expressed in the

Towns Vote of that date — The Selectmen have accordingly proceeded to execute the trust reposed in them; and after much deliberation have unanimously made choice of the following named Gentlemen as Commissioners for the purpose aforesaid

Honb[l] John Q Adams Esq
Honb[l] William Brown Esq
Honb[l] John Davis Esq
William Parsons Esq
John Joy Esq
Dr Redford Webster
Capt Tristram Barnard

and they have signified their willingness to accept the trust and have entered upon the duties thereof —

The Subscribers, a Committee chosen by the Town March 9th 1807, to Audit the Accounts of the Town Treasurer, Overseers of the Poor and the Board of Health; and to report the sum necessary to be raised for the present Year having attended that service ask leave to Report —

They have examined the Accompts of the several Departments, find them right cast and well vouched, The Treasurers Accounts as follows by his Trial Ballance Viz

1807.		$ C
April 30	To Towns Powder - - - - - - - -	1041.95
	To Notes Receivable for Notes due the Town / To Ballance due the Town on the several Taxes - - - - -	754.13
	Viz Tax - - - - 1803 - - - -	1032.81
	" " - - - - 1804 - - - -	6857.57
	" " - - - - 1805 - - - -	9139.49
	" " - - - - 1806 - - - -	45927.89
	To Cash on hand - - - - - - - -	641.98
		$65395.82

April 30		D. C
	By Notes payab[l] for sundry Articles for Money borrowed for Use of the Town - - - - - - -	24308.48
	By Ballance due the State Tax - 1806 - - - - - - -	18017.33
	Ditto on C° Tax - - - - - - - -	2189.27
	Due on Selectmens drafts - - - -	7253.58
	Overseers - - - Do - - - -	2917.15
	Board of Health - - - - - - -	405.88
	Due W[m] Tukesbury - - - - - - -	74.15
	Town Treasury - - - - - - - -	9665.54
	Due Trustees Neck land - - - - -	562.44
		65395.82

[328.] The Committee Report an Estimate for present Year as follows

School Master & Ushers - - - - - -	$13,300
Repairs of Schools Fire Wood &c - -	1,100
Town Watch - - - - - - - - - -	6,500
Town Treasurer & Collector - - - -	1,500
3 Assessors at 816 Dollars each - -	2,448
Police Officers - - - - - . - - -	1000
Constables Services - - - - - - -	300
Engine Repairs & Premiums - - - -	400
Lamps Oil & lighting - - - - - - -	5000 —
Town Clerk - - - - - - - - - -	1000 —
Messenger & Doorkeeper to Selectmen	500 —
Judge of Municipal Court & Advocate	800 —
Printing & Stationery - - - - - -	400 —
Bells & Clocks - - - - - - - - -	400 —
Regulating & Paving Streets - - -	10000 —
Overseers of the Poor - - - - - -	18000 —
Board of Health - - - - - - - -	5000 —
To complete the payment for repairs of Faneuil Hall - - - -	20000 —
Incidental Charges - - - - - - -	2132 —
	$90,000 —

In the following Accounts the Town will find all the particular expences Viz

Nr 1 — Mr Smith's general Account
2 — His Trial ballance
3 — Selectmens Drafts and monthly payments
4 — Overseers Drafts - - - - ditto
5 — County of Suffolk - - - - "
6 — Board of Health - - - - "
7 — Outstanding Debts - - - "
8 — Treasurers Accounts of Faneuil Hall
9 — Accounts of Rents Annually received Amtg to $9142 This sum will be increased this Year nearly $2000 when all the Arangement of the Market is completed

The Committee have also examined the Accounts of the Agents for enlarging Faneuil Hall and find them well vouched; the whole Amount of expences of the enlargement by particular Acct herewith handed in is 50692\frac{67}{100}$ which Expences have been in part paid by proceeds of Land on Fort Hill 16185 and Taxes last Year 10,000 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 26,185 —

[329.] Selectmen have been empowered to sell Towns land near S° Bridge for which they have been offered - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	11,000
Ballance provided for in the Estimate for this Year	19,507.67
	$56,692.67

From the above Statement your Committee are of opinion that the Town raise Ninety Thousand Dollars to defray the Expences of the Town for the present Year, all which they submit— Your Committee have also heard the Agents on their claims for compensation for attending the enlargement of Faneuil Hall, and are of opinion that they ought to have allowed them 1 pct on the Amount which will be $566.92 —

Joseph Russell }
Samuel Brown } Comm^tee

The aforegoing Report having been read and considered — the Question was put "Whether the same shall be accepted — Passed in the Affirmative —

Voted that the Sum of Ninety Thousand Dollars be raised by a Tax to be assessed on the Polls and Estates of the Inhabitants of this Town to defray the Expences of the Town the Current Year —

Voted that the Sum of Seven hundred & fifty Dollars be allowed and paid unto the Honb^l Thomas Dawes Jur Esq for his Salary as Judge of the Municipal Court —

Voted, that the Honb^l William Smith Esq be allowed and paid as Town Treasurer & Collector of Taxes for the present Year the sum of $1500 — he to pay his Clerk, Assistant & Office hire, and all expences of Office.

Voted, that the sum of 1000 Dollars be allowed and paid unto William Cooper for his Salary as Town Clerk the year ensuing

Voted, that the Sum of 816 Dollars be allowed and paid to each of the three Assessors, for their services in that Office the Year ensuing

Moved & Voted, that when this Meeting be adjourned it shall be to Wednesday the 8th Day of July 10 OClock A : M : and the Inhabitants be informed thereof by Notification —

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourned

[330.] Town Met according to Adjournment July 8 10 OClock A : M :

The Committee relative to Mill Pond having notified the Selectmen that they should not be ready to Report at this Adjournment, and they having informed the Inhabitants thereof in the public Prints

It was Moved & Voted, that this Meeting be further Adjourned to Monday the 20th July Inst^t 10 OClock A : M : and that the

Selectmen notify the Town thereof by Handbills dispersed amongst the Inhabitants

Monday July 20th 10 OClock A : M : Met according to adjournment and the Committee on Mill Pond not being ready to Report the Meeting was further adjourned to Meet on Monday the 3d August 10 OClock A : M :

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Saturday the 4th Day of July A : D : 1807 9 O'Clock A : M :

Warrant for calling Meeting - - - - - - - - Read

William Cooper
was chosen Moderator

The Committee appointed last Year to make choice of a Gentleman to deliver an oration on the Anniversary of American Independence

Reported that they had made choice of Peter Thatcher Esq who had accepted of the Appointment

On Motion adjourned to Old South Church when

AN ORATION

to commemorate the Independence of the United States was delivered by Peter Thatcher Esq at the Old South Church —

On Motion Voted, that the Selectmen be a Committee to wait on Peter Thatcher Esq, and in the Name of the Town to thank him for the elegant & spirited Oration this Day delivered by him at the request of the Town upon the [**331**] Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America in which according to the Institution of the Town, he considered the manners feelings & principles which led to that great National Event and to Request of him a Copy thereof for the Press

On Motion Voted, that the Gentlemen & Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to some one learned & able Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the 4th of July A : D : 1808 — that Day being the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America wherein the Orator is to consider the feelings manners & principles which led to this Great National Event; as well as the important & happy effects, whether General or Domestic which have already or will forever flow from that auspicious Epoch

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 16th July A:D: 1807. 10 OClock A:M:

Warrant for calling Meeting - - - - - - - - - Read.

Honbl John C Jones Esq
chosen Moderator by a Hand Vote

Communication from the Committee of Correspondence of the City of Norfolk Virginia laid before the Town by the Selectmen and after reading the same it was moved & Voted, that

Honbl John Q Adams Esq
Honbl Harrison G. Otis Esq
Honbl William Eustis Esq
[332.] Honbl Christopher Gore Esq
Dr Charles Jarvis Esq
Honbl John C Jones Esq
Honbl T H Perkins Esq

be a Committee to consider the Communication and to Report as soon as may be to the Inhabitants who will remain in Meeting to receive their Report

The Town being informed that two Gentlemen of the Commee were not in Meeting it was moved & Voted that the

Honbl Jona Mason Esq
Dr John Warren Esq

be added to the Committee.

In about an hour the Committee entered the Hall and made the following Report, by their Chairman Mr Adams — Viz —

Whereas by the Communication from Norfolk, Portsmouth & their vicinities, and the Proclamation of the President of the United States, it appears that the sovereignty of our Country has been insulted, and the lives of our Citizens sacrificed by the unjustifiable conduct of a British Armed Ship —

1st *Resolved*, That we consider the unprovoked attack on the United States Armed Ship the Chesapeake by the British Ship of War, the Leopard, a wanton outrage upon the lives of our Fellow Citizens, a direct violation of our National honour and an infringement of our National Rights and Sovereignty —

2. *Resolved*, That we most sincerely approve the proclamation and the firm & dispassionate course of policy, pursued by the President of the United States, and we will cordially unite with our Fellow Citizens in affording effectual support to such measures as our Government may further adopt in the present crisis of our affairs —

3. *Resolved*, That we remember with pride & pleasure the patriotic & spirited conduct of the Citizens of Norfolk, Portsmouth, and their Vicinities, before the orders of the Government were known upon this momentous occasion, and they are entitled to the thanks and approbation of their Fellow Citizens throughout the Union —

[**333.**] 4th *Resolved*, That the Selectmen be requested to return a suitable answer to the respectfull comunication from our Fellow Citizens of Norfolk with the proceedings of this Meeting.

The Town were informed that the Committee were unanimous in their Report — And the Question being put — Whether this Report shall be accepted — Passed in the affirmative unanimously, and with great applause

The Moderator had the Thanks of the Town for his good services —

Then the Meeting was Dissolved

Monday the 3d Day of August 10 OClock A.M. Met according to Adjournment of May Meeting

The Committee relative to the Mill Pond, Reported, and laid before the Town the Agreement or contract made with the Mill Proprietors — the Report having been several times read — A motion was made that the same be referred to an Adjournment of this Meeting & that the Report & Contract be printed & distributed amongst the Inhabitants and the question being put it passed in the negative — It was then moved that the Report of the Committee be now put for the acceptance of the Town & the motion being accordingly put it passed in the Affirmative by a vast majority —

The Report is as follows —

Boston July 24 1807

The Commissioners appointed by your respectable Board in conformity to the object of their appointment and the powers with which they were invested have concluded a Contract with the Proprietors of the *Boston Mill Corporation*, subject to the ratification of the Town of Boston.

In stipulating for a relinquishment of the rights and [**334**] claims of the Town to the Mill Pond: the following conditions are expressly secured Viz

That all claims & controversies relative to Abutters on the Pond be settled by Arbitration or rule of Court if they cannot be otherwise satisfactorily adjusted —

That the Mill Creek be continued by the Proprietors of its present width to Charles River —

That the western Flood Gates, be restored and kept open so long as the Selectmen shall require —

That suitable accommodation be provided for the Baptist Churches pursuant to existing agreements between those Churches & the Proprietors

That such common Sewers shall be carried through the Pond as the Selectmen shall direct

That the filling up the Pond shall be with such materials as the Selectmen shall approve

That Streets shall be laid out & completed fit for paving according to a plan delineated by the Chairman of the Selectmen, under certain specified restrictions —

That all necessary Bridges over any Canals that may be reserved shall be made at the expence of the Proprietors

That a square of Land of One Acre filled up at or near the center of the Pond, be reserved for the use of the Town to be disposed of at their discretion —

That the whole Pond & Flatts appurtenant shall be filled up at the expence of the Proprietors within *Twenty Years*

That *one eight part* of the whole Premises filled up shall be conveyed to the Town in fee simple free of all expences to the Town —

That one half of such part of the Premises as shall not within twenty Years be filled up or boxed so as to exclude the water in manner equivalent to filling up — shall be and remain the sole property of the Town; and finally, That the Town shall be indemnified from all expence, loss or damage from any of the operations of the Proprietors in the proposed improvements. —

[**335.**] Those stipulations which relate to the public accommodation were readily adjusted, It has been more dificult to determine the proportion of the property to which the Town should become entitled upon the release of the present conditions, and to regulate the manner of connection with the Proprietors —

Various views of the subject were presented to the consideration of the Commissioners, arising from mutual estimate proportions. The terms on which the actual adjustment is made,

while they secure the execution of the contemplated improvements, in suitable manner & within a reasonable period of time will give certain pecuniary benefit to the Town, without risque or expence, This definite emolument with other collateral benefits, secured by the contract, the Commissioners conceive to be a fair equivalent for the Town's interest in the property, estimating that interest to be the one half of the present value of the premises.— A greater nominal proportion might indeed have been obtained by becoming *Joint Sharers* in the Corporation but in the estimation of the Commissioners the terms on which they have decided present a more eligible basis, and the eventual profit will in their apprehension be equal if not superior to the advantages which might probably be derived from any connection with the concern by *shares*, that has been proposed —

The Contract has been carefully framed and it is presumed embraces every requisite for a definitive compromise — and for the prevention of future controversy or misunderstanding between the Parties — In this persuasion and with sincere wishes for a prosperous & satisfactory result of this intended enterprise we submit the Instrument that has been executed to the decision of our Constituents. —

We have the honour to be Gentlemen with great respect—
Your Obed^{t} Servants
by the Order of the Commissioners } John Davis Chairman
The Selectmen of Boston

[**336.**] On Motion Voted, that the Selectmen be and hereby are authorised and fully empowered to carry the conditions of the aforementioned Agreement & Contract which has been ratified by the Town, into full effect

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given to Joseph Russell Esq for the dispatch given the business of the May Meeting

Then the Meeting was Dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified & legally warned, in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 9th Day of December A:D: 1807 — 10 OClock A:M:

Warrant for calling the Meeting - - - - - - - Read.

Honbl Joseph Russell Esq
chosen Moderator by a hand Vote —

The Article in the Warrant — viz — "Upon the Application of a number of the Inhabitants to consider the petition & representation of Perkins Nichols to the Town praying for consideration & indemnity for his losses on Building a Street across the Mill Pond" —was read and debated — whereupon it was moved — That the said Petitioner have leave to withdraw his petition & representation — and the Question being accordingly put — Passed by a great majority in the Affirmative

On Motion Voted that the Thanks of the Town be given to the Honbl Joseph Russell Esq for his good services as Moderator. —

Then the Meeting was dissolved

1808.

[**337.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified & legally warned, in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall, on Monday the 14th day of March Anno Domini 1808. 10. O'Clock A.M.

Prayer was made by Rev. Dr. Eckley.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

Sundry Laws or extracts of Laws to be read at this Meeting — were according — read.

Hon. Joseph Russell Esq. was chosen Moderator of this Meeting.

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw & bring in their Votes for a Town Clerk, & the same being brought in & counted, it appeared that William Cooper was chosen Town Clerk for the year ensuing & took the oath of Office which was administered to him by Mr. Justice Bulfinch.

A motion was made, but did not obtain That a Committee be chosen to assist the Selectmen in counting their Votes. —

Voted that the Poll for choice of Selectmen be closed at half past 12 °Clock. —

The Inhabitants were desired to withdraw and bring in their Votes for 9 Selectmen, & the same have having been brought in & counted; [**338**] it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen — viz.

Charles Bulfinch Esq.	John May Esq
David Tilden Esq	Francis Wright Esq.

William Porter Esq.
Mr. Eben^{r}. Oliver
Jon^{a} Hunnewell Esq
Dea Joseph Kettle
Jonathan Chapman Esq.
(all Sworn)

The Votes for a Town Treasurer & Collector of Taxes for the present year, being brought in & sorted, it appeared that —
William Smith Esq — was chosen.

Edward Proctor Esq.
Henry Hill Esq.
William Smith Esq.
William Phillips Esq.
Redford Webster Esq.
Thomas Perkins Esq.
Mr Samuel Snelling
Mr. Benj^{a}. Goddard
Saml Clap Esq
Mr Ozias Goodwin
Mr. William Mackay
Joseph Coolidge Junr. Esq.
were Chosen overseers of the Poor for the year ensuing.

[339.] Thomas Melville Esq.
Henry Jackson Esq.
Joseph May Esq.
Andrew Cunningham Esq
Joseph Head Esq.
Thomas H Perkins Esq
Gen. John Winslow
Stephen Codman Esq.
John Bray Esq.
Mr Thomas Dennie
Gen. Simon Elliot
Jonathan Hunnewell Esq
Danl Messinger Esq.
Mr Thos Curtis
Josh^{a} Davis Junr Esq
Benjamin Smith
Benjamin Coates
Wm Sullivan
Mr Ignatius Sargent
Mr. Saml. Sweet
Bryant P. Tilden Esq.
Mr Edwd Cruft
Capt Barker Baker
Ja^{s}. Phillips Esq.
were chosen Fire Wards for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Ozias Goodwin & Henry Fowle had a Vote of thanks for their good services as Fire Wards the past year.

Amasa Davis Esq Samuel Bradford Esq. having also declined serving as Fire-Wards, had the Thanks of the Town for their good & long services in that Office. —

Adjourned to 3 °Ck P.M.

3 O'Clock P.M. Town met.

Voted, that in addition to the Selectmen 12 Persons shall now be chosen *a School Committee* & the Votes being brought in & sorted it appeared that the following Gentlemen were Chosen — viz.

Rev. Joseph Eckley D.D.
Dr. Thomas Welch
Dr. Aaron Dexter
Arnold Welles Esq.
Rev. J. T. Kirkland
William Smith Esq

[340.] David Greene Esq.
Hon John Phillips Esq
John Heard Esq
John Davis Esq.
Rev. Wm Emmerson
Charles Davis Esq.

Voted that the above named Gentlemen who conjunctly with the Selectmen are termed the *School Committee* be and hereby are directed to carry the *new System of Education* which has been adopted by the Town into operation, and said Committee are also authorized & empowered conjunctly to manage & regulate the officers & the Government of the Schools, & in future to execute all the power, relative to the Schools and School Masters which the Selectmen or such Committees were authorized by the laws of the Commonwealth or the Votes of the Town to exercise — any former Votes of the Town notwithstanding. —

Votes for a Treasurer of the County of Suffolk brought in & counted by the Moderator & Town Clerk; when it appeared that the whole number was 293, and that they were all for Ebenezer Seaver Esq. a discreet suitable Person, and a Freeholder and Resident in said County — and delivered return to Ebenr Seaver for Court of Sessions. —

Messrs. Benja. White, John Cogswell, Willm. Clouston, William Ellison, John Butterfield, Nathl. Bradlee Jr, Noah Dogget, Caleb Coolidge, Braddock Loring, Edwd. Alline, Thomas Christy, William Green, Eleazer Homer, Joseph Stodder, Allen Bowker, Benjamin Rice, Willm Ellison Jur. were chosen Surveyors of boards & Shingles for the year ensuing.

[341.] Messrs. Joseph Doble, Jonathan Cushing Thomas Barbour, James Ellison, Nathl. How, John Smith, Daniel Cutter, Gershom Spear, Charles Pook, Ziba Thayer, Hezh. Hudson & Benja. Clark were chosen Cullers of dry Fish for the Year ensuing. —

Messrs Henry Purkett, Lemuel Gardner, Thomas Barbour & James Eunson — were chosen Cullers of hoops & Staves for the year ensuing. —

Messrs. Benja. White, Moses Ayres & William Ellison, were chosen Fence Viewers for the year ensuing. —

Messrs. Barney Connor Jas. Cabbot, Joseph Bacon, John Deluce, Rufus Harrington, were chosen Hogreeves for the year ensuing. —

Messrs. Barney Connor Jas. Cabbot, Joseph Bacon, John Deluce, Rufus Harrington, were chosen Haywards for the Year ensuing. —

Messrs. Samuel Emmons & James Phillips were chosen surveyers of Hemp for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Edwd Tuckerman & Josiah Snelling were chosen surveyors of Wheat for the year ensuing.

Messrs. John Wells & Wm C. Hunneman were chosen Assay Masters for the year ensuing.

The Selectmen - - - were chosen Surveyors of Highways for the year ensuing

Messrs Francis James & Silas Francis were chosen Inspectors of Lime for the year ensuing.

[**342.**] The Petition of Mr Perkins Nichols "that the Town would agree with him upon the terms of completing Pond Street, & grant him such further Relief as may appertain to equity & Justice" — was read & debated — and the question being put Whether said Petition may be withdrawn — passed in the Affirmative almost unanimously and in a very full Meeting.

David Tilden Esq. having by Letter requested the Town that they would accept of his resignation as a Selectman, into which office he had been again chosen — his request was accordingly granted — and on Motion

Voted, Unanimously, that the Thanks of the Town be given him for his good & faithful Services as a Selectman for Thirteen years past.

On Motion — Adjourned to Monday the 28th of March 10 °Clock A.M.

Monday the 28th of March 10 o'Clock AM.
Met According to Adjournment.

Deacon Kettell having declined serving further as a Selectman — it was moved and Voted that the Thanks of the Town be given him for his good & faithful services while in Office. —

The Votes being brought in for two Selectmen in the room of David Tilden Esq. & Deacon Kettell who had resigned — it appeared that

Mr Nathan Webb - - - - 321
Mr Joseph Foster - - - - 320

were chosen.

[**343.**] The Votes being brought in to fill the vacancy in the School Committee from the resignation of Rev. Doct^{r} Eckley — it appeared that

Rev. William E. Channing was chosen unanimously.

Voted unanimously that the Thanks of the Town be given the Rev^{d}. Joseph Eckley D.D. for his good & faithful services as one of the School Committee for a number of years past. —

The Votes, being brought in for one Fire Ward in the room of Mr Tilden, who declines serving, it appeared that —

Mr Nathl. Curtis was chosen unanimously.

Mr Joseph Bacon having declined serving as a Hogreeve & Hayward into which office he had been chosen —

Mr Samuel Winchester — was chosen a Hayward and Hogreeve for the Year ensuing.

The business of March Meeting being finished, it was moved & Voted unanimously, that the Thanks of the Town be given Joseph Russell Esq. for his good services in giving dispatch to the Business of the Meeting.—

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[**344.**] At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of 21 years of age and upwards, qualified as the Constitution prescribes & legally Warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday 4th day of April Anno Domini 1808. 9 °Clock A.M.—

Prayer was made by the Rev. Joseph Clay.—

The Town Clerk informed the Meeting that all the Gentlemen chosen Selectmen for the present year, had agreeable to a late act of the General Court qualified themselves for that office, by taking the following Oath viz.—" That they would faithfully & impartially discharge the duties of their Office respecting all Elections, and the returns thereof" which Oath was administered to them by John Gardner Esq. Justice of the Peace.—

attest William Cooper Town Clerk.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

Paragraph of the Constitution or Frame of Government relative to the Choice of Governor Lieu^{t}. Governor & Senators - - read.—

It was then declared by the Selectmen that no Vote shall be received but such as are unfolded & that they propose the Poll shall be closed at 2 °Clock P.M. the Bells to begin tolling at half past 1 oClock & to continue for half an hour.

Persons Voted for as GOVERNOUR with the number of Votes for each Person. viz

His Excellency James Sullivan Esq		2118.
[345.]	Honble. Christopher Gore Esq.	2610
	Honble. Caleb Strong Esq.	3
	Honble. John Coffin Jones Esq.	1
	Honble. John Adams Esq.	1
	Honble. Elbridge Gerry Esq.	3
	Mr John Roulstone	1

Persons Voted for as Lieu^t^. *Governour* with the number of Votes for each person viz.

Honble. Levi Lincoln Esq	2119 —
Honble. David Cobb Esq	2624 —
Honble. John Q. Adams Esq	1
Mr William Young	1

Persons Voted for as *Senators*, for the County of Suffolk, with the number of Votes for each person viz.—

Honble. Harrison G. Otis Esq.	2615
Honble. William Spooner Esq	2622
Hon. John Phillips Esq	2623
Hon. Peter C. Brooks Esq	2620
James Lloyd Junr Esq	2623
Hon. William Eustis Esq	2121
David Tilden Esq	2119
Samuel Brown Esq	2119
Russell Sturgis Esq	2118
Col. Edward Procter Esq	2118
Stephen Codman Esq	1
John Welles Esq	1
Hon Christopher Gore Esq	2
Hon John C. Jones Esq	1
Peter Thacher Esq	1

[346.] Attested Copies or returns of the Persons Voted for as *Governour*, Leu^t^. *Governour* & Senators for the County of Suffolk sealed up in Town Meeting after the Vote had been declared, to be transmitted to the Secretary of the Commonwealth as prescribed by Law, and directed as follows viz.

To Hon Jonathan L. Austin Esq.
Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. —

The number of Votes of the Town of Boston for *Governour* Lieu^t^. *Governour & five Senators* for the County of Suffolk certified within & sealed up in Town Meeting, after the Votes had been declared.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[**347.**] At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of 21 years of age & upwards qualified as the Constitution prescribes & legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 11th of May Anno Domini 1808. 9 O'Clock A.M.

The Meeting opened with Prayer by Rev. Mr. Buckminster.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read. —

That part of the Constitution or Frame of Government which relates to the choice of Representatives — read.—

The Town having determined by a Vote to choose 31 persons to represent them in the General Court of Massachusetts to be holden in the State House in Boston on the last Wednesday of May current, agreeable to the Constitution or Frame of Government for Massachusetts; the Inhabitants were directed by the Selectmen to bring in their Votes for Representatives not exceeding 31. — And then it was declared by the Selectmen that no Votes would be received by the Selectmen but such as are unfolded and untill the Name of the person entering shall be marked on the list by the Gentlemen assisting for that purpose from the several Wards & that they propose the Poll should be closed at ½ past 2 oClock. the bells to begin tolling half an hour before & to continue untill the close of the Poll.—

[**348.**] The Votes being brought in for 31 Representatives, upon sorting them it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen, having obtained a Majority of the Votes — viz

Christopher Gore	William Smith
William Brown	Jon^a^. Hunnewell
John Welles	William Phillips
Stephen Codman	Benjamin Russell
Daniel Sargent	Thos. W. Sumner
John Callender	Benj^a^. Goddard
Benj^a^. Whitman	John T. Apthorp
Thomas Danforth	Charles Davis
Stephen Higginson J^r^.	Charles Jackson
Joseph Head	Willm. H. Sumner
James Robinson	Jon^a^. Chapman
Benj^a^. Bussey	Thomas Dennie
Joseph Coolidge J^r^.	Francis D. Channing
Isaac P. Davis	John Parker
Eben^r^. T. Andrews	Ignatius Sargent

William Hammatt Esquires.

The choice of Representatives was then declared by the Selectmen. —

of those Voted for, who did not obtain a Choice, The following Gentlemen had the number of Votes set against their respective names — viz. —

William Eustis	1250
Russell Sturgis	1249
David Townsend	1249
Dan[l]. Baxter	1248
David Tilden	1249
Jon[a]. Harris	1249
Caleb Bingham	1248
Thomas Page	1248
Ed. Procter	1249
Jacob Rhoades	1249
Eben[r]. Larkin	1248
Will[m]. Jarvis	1248

The Meeting was then Dissolved.

[**349.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified & legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 12th day of May Anno Domini 1808. — 10 °Clock A. M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting read

Stephen Codman Esq
was chosen Moderator by a hand Vote.

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for 6 Trustees for Towns land on the Neck in addition to the Selectmen who conjunctly are to lease & manage said lands in such manner as shall appear to them best for the Interest of the Town — the Votes being brought in & sorted it appeared that —

Hon. William Browne Esq.
Hon. William Phillips Esq.
William Hammatt Esq.
Gen[l]. John Winslow
Joshua Davis Jun[r] Esq.
Edw[d]. Tuckerman Esq.

were chosen.

The Selectmen informed the Town that it would take further time, before they should be ready to report on the new Act relative to Jurors. —

Voted, That this Meeting be Adjourned to Monday the 13th Day of June next — 10 oClock A.M then to meet at this place. —

[**350.**] Monday 13^{h} Day of June 1808. 10 °Clk A.M. — Met according to Adjournment.

The Subscribers a Committee chosen by the Inhabitants March 14th 1808. to Audit the Accounts of the Town Treasurer, Overseers of the Poor, Board of Health &c &c and to Report the sum necessary to be raised for the present year, having attended that service, beg leave to Report. —

They have examined the Accounts of the several departments & find right cast & well vouched — Treasurers Accounts as follows —

Notes receivable -	381.50	By Notes payable for Money Borr^{d}.	26,706.98
due on Tax 1803 -	1,026.51		
D°. - d°. 1804 -	6,488.46	State Tax - - -	19,543.33
D° - - d° 1805 -	7,932.0	County Tax - - -	11,641.85
D° - - d° 1806 -	15,994.31	Wm Tukesbury - -	74.15
D° - - d° 1807 -	51,111.64	Trustees for Neck Land	24.—
Cash Account -	169.21	Town Treasurer -	13,684.64
Dolls	83103.63	Outstanding Debts -	11,428.65
			$83,103.60

The Abatements on 1804, 1805 & 1806, have not been [paid] since making up the above Accounts, the Treasurer has received upwards of $17,000 Dollars, which has been paid to discharge part of the above sums. —

The Committee Report an Estimate for the Present Year — as follows

School Masters & Ushers - - -	13,300	Am° b^{t}. forw^{d}. - -	22,400—
Repairs of schools & Wood . - -	1,100	Three Assistants -	2,448
Town Watch - -	6,500	Town Clerk - - -	1,000
Town Treasurer & Collector	1,500	Constables services -	700
		Judge Municipal Court - - - -	750
	22,400	Doll^{s}	27,298—

[**351.**]

Amount brought over - - - - - -	27,298—
Police Officers - -	1,000
Paving Streets - -	8,000
Messenger & Door Keeper to Selectmen - - - - - - - - - - - -	400
Engine Repairs & Premiums - - -	600
Lamps, Oil & Lighting Lamps - -	5,000

Printing & Stationary - - - - - -	400
Overseers of the Poor - - - - - -	16,000
Board of Health - - - - - - - -	5,000
Bells & Clocks - - - - - - - -	400
Incidental Charges - - - - - - -	1,902
Doll^{s}.	66,000—

From the above Statement your Committee are of opinion that the Town should raise *Sixty Six Thousand Dollars* to defray the expences of the Town the present year, all which is submitted by — Joseph Russell.

The foregoing Report having been read & considered — the Question was put — "Whether the same shall be accepted" — Passed in the Affirmative — whereupon

Voted, that the sum of Sixty Six Thousand Dollars be raised by a Tax to be Assessed on the Polls & Estates of the Inhabitants of this Town to defray the Expences of the Town the Current Year.

Voted, that the sum of Seven hundred & fifty Dollars be allowed and paid unto the Hon^{bl}. Thomas Dawes J^{r}. Esq for his Salary as Judge of the Municipal [352] Court the present year. —

Voted, That the Honble. William Smith Esq. Town Treasurer & Collector of Taxes the present year [should have] the sum of $1500, he to pay his Clerk, Assistant Office hire, and all expences of Office. —

Voted, that the Sum of One Thousand Dollars be allowed & paid unto William Cooper for his Salary as Town Clerk, the year ensuing.

Voted, that the sum of $816 be allowed & paid to each of the three Assessors, for their services in that Office the year ensuing. —

On Motion Adjourned to Monday 27th of June Instant 10. O'Clock A.M. in order to receive the Report of the Committee relative to regulating Jury Boxes. —

June 27th 1808. 10 O'Clock A.M. Met according to Adjournment. —

The late Law relative to Jurors — was read —

The Selectmen Report and Present Lists of Persons in their opinion best qualified for the Jury Boxes — One list for the

Grand & Traverse Jurors and the other list for the Petit Jurors, at the Court of Common Pleas — They find the whole number of names to be 5,300 — after deducting such persons as were excused by Law, of those they present a list of one quarter part, being 1306 for the first Box & 1447 for the Second Box. — the same being accepted by the Town — It was moved, and after debate Voted, that the Selectmen be a Committee [**353**] to regulate the Jury Boxes, so as best to answer the intentions of the law. —

On Motion Voted, That in consideration of the Duties & services which devolve upon the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, Members of the Board of Health, Fire Wards & the Engine-men of this Town — The Committee for revising & arranging the lists for the Jury Boxes be directed to omit putting the names of all such persons in either of the Boxes.

On Motion Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be given to Stephen Codman Esq. for his good services as Moderator in dispatching the business of the Meeting. —

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[**354.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified & legally warned in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 4th Day of July A.D. 1808. — 9 O'Clock A.M.

William Cooper chosen — Moderator. —

The Committee appointed the last year to make choice of a Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the Anniversary of Independence, Reported, That they had chosen Andrew Ritchie Junr. Esq. who has accepted of the Appointment —

Adjourned to the Old South Church 12 O'Clock noon.

AN ORATION

to commemorate the Independence of the United States was delivered by Andrew Ritchie Jur. Esq. at the Old South Church —

On Motion *Voted*, That the Selectmen be a Committee to wait on Andrew Ritchie Junr. Esq. and in the name of the Town to Thank him for the Elegant & Spirited Oration this day delivered by him at the request of the Town, upon the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America in which according to the Institution of the Town, he considered the manners, feelings & principles which led to that great National Event — and to request of him a copy thereof for the Press.—

On Motion Voted, That [**355**] the Gentlemen, Selectmen be & hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to some able & learned Gentleman to deliver an Oration the 4th of July A.D. 1809.—that day being the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America, wherein the Orator is to consider the feelings, manners & principles which led to this great National Event; as well as the important & happy effects, whether general or Domestic which have already or will forever flow from that auspicious Epoch. —

Then the meeting was Dissolved.

[**356.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the 9th Day of August, 10 °Clock A.M. 1808.

Warrant for calling the Meeting - - read.

Joseph Russell Esq.
chosen Moderator by a hand Vote — not being present

Stephen Codman Esq.
was chosen Moderator by a hand Vote & took the Chair accordingly.—

The Petition for calling the Meeting read — as also the Notification for said purpose, when the Hon[l]. Jonathan Mason Esq — after a number of remarks on the subject offered the following Motion in the form of a Resolve — viz —

Resolved, that it is expedient for this Town respectfully to Petition the President of the United States, to suspend the Embargo either wholly or partially according to the powers vested in him by the Congress of the United States; or if any doubt should exist as to the sufficiency of those powers, that he be requested to call Congress together as soon as possible and that a Committee of seven be appointed to prepare & submit to the Town a petition in Conformity — after a spirited debate of some length the Motion to adopt the Question as [**357**] proposed by Mr. Mason passed by a very great Majority. —

The following Gentlemen were then chosen on the Committee — viz. —

Hon Jon[a] Mason Esq
Mr Daniel Sargent
Hon Christopher Gore Esq
Arnold Wells Esq
Hon John Phillips Esq
Mr James Perkins
Hon William Brown Esq

The Town then added the Moderator, Stephen Codman Esq and on Motion Adjourned to 4 oClock P.M. Then to receive the Report of the Committee. —

4 O'Clock P. M. Met according to Adjournment when the Committee Reported the following Memorial which was read from the Chair, and passed almost Unanimously. —

To the President of the United States.

The Inhabitants of the Town of Boston in legal Town Meeting Assembled, beg leave respectfully to represent. —

That uniformly influenced by a sense of Patriotism, & a respect for the Constituted Authorities of their Country, they have sustained without opposition or complaint the embarassments & losses arising from the existing embargo on the vessells & export trade of [358] the United States: and they trust that the history of the revolutionary war, & the annals of the present government will furnish ample testimony of their readiness to make any personal sacrifices & to endure any privations which the public welfare may truly require. —

That they are fully aware of the indispensable necessity of supporting at all times, the laws enacted by the Government of their choice. Under this impression they have refrained from expressing the wishes they most sensibly feel for the removal of the Embargo, & but for the great events in Europe, which materially change the aspect of our foreign relations, they would yet silently wait for the Meeting of Congress, in the hope of obtaining from that Honourable Body relief from the pressure of this great calamity, which bears with peculiar weight on the Eastern States. —

Denied by nature those valuable & luxuriant Staples which constitute the riches of the south, they necessarily owe much of their prosperity under the Blessing of Heaven to their own enterprize & Industry on the Ocean. —

It is therefore a duty as well as a right to avail themselves of every fair occasion which may offer, for procuring the removal of the existing restraints upon their maritime Commerce, more especially when this may be [359] Effected in a mode consistent with the laws & policy by which they were imposed. —

They therefore pray that the Embargo in whole or in part may be suspended according to the powers vested in the President by the Congress of the United States, & if any doubt should exist of the competency of those powers they would humbly request that the Congress may be convened as early as possible, for the purpose of taking the subject into their consideration

It was then Voted, that the Selectmen in behalf of the Town transmit this Petition to the President of the United States. —

On Motion of Hon. William Brown Voted, that the Selectmen

be a Committee to communicate the proceedings of the Town to the Selectmen of the other Towns of the Commonwealth, and to request them, if they see fit, to lay the same before their several Town's for their concurrence. —

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given to Stephen Codman Esq. Moderator of this Meeting for his good services therein.—

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[**360.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified & legally warned, in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 7th day of November, A.D. 1808.— 9 oClock A.M.—

Prayer by Revd Mr Huntington.—

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

Paragraph of a Resolve of the General Court for choosing one Representative for Suffolk district — read.—

Bells to begin tolling at 2 °Clock —
Poll to be closed at ½ past two O'Clock, as declared by the Selectmen.—

Persons Voted for as a Representative for the Suffolk District in this Commonwealth in the next Congress of the United States — viz.

Honble Josiah Quincy Esq. Twenty five hundred & thirteen
William Jarvis Jun. Thirteen hundred & ninety five
Honble William Eustis Esq. Two, Thos Lewis Jr. One.

and declaration made thereof in Town Meeting by the Selectmen — A return of the doings of this Meeting made out & put into the hands of Mr Sheriff Allen to be given to the Hon William Tudor Esq., Secretary of this Commonwealth, which return was conformable to the one in the Town Officer.—

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

1809.

[**361.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified & legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 23d Day of January A.D. 1809. 10 °Clock Forenoon

The Meeting was opened with prayer, by Dr Lathrop.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

Col Perkins was chosen Moderator by a hand Vote — having excused himself from serving

Stephen Codman Esq
was chosen Moderator, & took the Chair Accordingly.

Hon Thos. H. Perkins presented a number of Resolutions, for the consideration of the Town —

A previous Motion of Dr. Eustis for a short Adjournment did not obtain. —

The Resolutions, being distinctly read and debate had thereon — the Question was largely called for — & being put — Whether said Resolutions shall be accepted — Passed in the Affirmative by a very respectable majority.

It was then moved & Voted — that a Committee of seven be appointed to draw a Petition to the General Court conformable to said Resolutions — Whereupon the Nominations being called for — The following Gentlemen were chosen — viz. —

[362.] Hon Thomas H. Perkins Esq. Hon J. C. Jones Esq.
Hon Samuel Dexter Esq. Dr Joseph Warren Esq.
William Sullivan Esq Hon Jon^{a} Mason Esq
Theodore Lyman Esq

An Adjournment being moved — Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to Tuesday next 10. O'Clock A.M.

Tuesday Jany 24th — 10. O'Clock A.M. Met according to Adjournment —

The Committee appointed on the Yesterday, to prepare a Petition to the General Court, conformably to the Resolutions then passed — Reported the following draft — which being read & largely debated, was accepted by a large Majority of Citizens, in a crowded Assembly and is as follows viz. —

To the Honourable the Senate, & House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, The Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, in legal Town Meeting Assembled, respectfully represent. —

That they are constrained to apply to your Honourable Body, as the immediate guardians of their rights & liberties, for your interposition, to procure for them, relief from the greivances,

which they now suffer, & those which they have reason to apprehend, under the operation of the Laws of the General Government, abolishing foreign commerce, [**363**] and subjecting the coasting trade to embarrassments, which threaten its annihilation. —

That the provision of the Constitution of the United States which declares, that all powers, not expressly delegated to them, are reserved to the respective States, or to the People, we conceive to be *a fundamental principle of the confederation.*

We submit to the consideration of the Legislature, whether this most important maxim has not been violated, by the passing of an Act, in the first instance permanently prohibiting foreign commerce, and thus subjecting this all important object of the National Government, to the pleasure of the Executive and one third part of the Senate. So extravagant an Exercise of Power was calculated to excite jealousy & alarm, and to rouse a spirit of opposition among a people, of thousands of whom it may be Affirmed *that their home is on the Ocean*, and with respect to *all* of whom, it is certain, that their prosperity, by the unchangeable circumstances of local situation, immemorial habits, and the established relations of society, is absolutely dependent on Commerce. —

Your Memorialists were not, however swift to condemn, nor rash to violate the provisions of the first Act, they were on the contrary disposed to acquiesce in a measure [**364**] which, tho beyond their comprehension might have originated in circumstances not disclosed to them. — They trusted to the assurances of the Executive Message, that it was merely a measure of precaution; and to the imperious necessities of the Nation, that its duration would be short. — But as the projectors of this experiment advanced to the maturity of their system, the mask was gradually lifted; and while official communications at home and abroad, insisted upon the merely pacific, and preservative character of the Embargo Laws, it was disclosed, from other sources, that their true features were those of hostility and coercion; and the Administration, and their friends, no longer conceal, that the Embargo is "War in disguise," and is soon to be followed by *open War.*

In the process — of this experiment the truth of opinions which were at once familiar to the well informed and soon apparent to all, the folly of the supposition, that the commerce of the New World was indispensable to the existence, or even comfort, of Nations which had flourished many thousand years before its discovery, became sufficiently manifest to cover with confusion all its supporters, whose intellects were not infected by the pride of system, the passions of party, or by foreign predilection. To Great Britain the measure was not probably, unacceptable, as it has operated most Auspiciously upon [**365**] her Colonies, teaching them the fatal secret of their entire independence of our country, and stimulating them to a successful competition with us, in those branches of commerce, which have been almost ex-

clusively our own. — To France this abandonment of the Ocean. is grateful, as it is a substantial compliance with the mandates issued by her, to her Vassal Nations; and in this view it has received the open approbation of the Emperor. —

Against Great Britain & France it is equally impotent as a measure of coercion; but to our own country it is fraught with absolute destruction. — It is our Country only that it deprives of a commerce, which after having been long suspended, may be irrecoverably lost. It is our Country alone, that must be convulsed, and rent, by the dissensions growing out of this unprecedented system of violence, imposed by one section of the Union upon the other. — It is by our Country only, that this system must be felt & deprecated, as a Judgment of God, decending on a Nation through the infatuation of its Rulers.

Your memorialists beg leave further to remind your Honourable Body, that the National Government not content with abolishing by standing laws, that commerce which it is one of their principal [**366**] functions to protect, have thought themselves authorized to resort to those means of *compelling obedience* which are never necessary, except when despotism opposes its terrors to the established habits and opinions of a people. — A late Act has accordingly been passed for enforcing the Embargo, the provisions of which are so repugnant to the Constitution and to the first principles of a free Government, that on this subject your Memorialists want language to express their grief and abhorrence. —

Under colour of this Law, a Citizen is subjected to penalties, and forfitures, though not privy to any breach of its provisions. He may be charged with, & convicted, of crimes and Offences, though innocent of intentions to commit them. — He is subject to unreasonable searches, & seizures of property, upon mere suspicion of an intention to violate the Law, and the discretion of an interested Officer is the standard, by which the reasonableness of the suspicion must be tested. — His Vessels, his Warehouse, the most secret, and sacred depositories of his property & effects, *not excepting his Habitation*, are liable to be ransacked, upon mere suspicion by a military force under general instructions from the President of the United States; and when by *the act of God*, he is prevented from complying with the requisitions of the statute, [**367**] he is deprived of the benefit of his tryal by Jury (unless he can furnish a species of evidence, which will be in most cases, impossible) and must rely for mercy upon the mere will and pleasure of an individual dependent on Executive favour.

In short as the Act alluded to will be before your Honours, it is superfluous to swell the grevious commentary to which every section is fairly liable. We in all duty & humility, therefore, call your attention to it as an Act oppressive beyond any precedent in this country, and requiring from us the exercise of all the patience, & moderation, of all the self-denial, and sacrifice of feeling to our love of order and respect for the Authority of the Government of the Union, of which we are capable. — We

are unable to assign any adequate motive that could have led our rulers to the adoption of the measures which we have stated, excepting a deliberate determination to pursue a system, which might involve us in such calamities, as seem to make a war inevitable without such motive they could have no interest in producing unnecessary sacrifices and violations of principle — when we view the course of measures, which the Government of the United States have of late pursued, and listen to the declaration made by its advocates, that war is inevitable, we are reluctantly driven to the conclusion that it has been predetermined [**368**] on & sought; and that less regard is paid to the necessity or justice of this war, than to its subserviency to the views of the dominant party. —

But against whom is this war to be waged? undoubtedly against Great Britain. For under whatever aspect of hostility, towards both of the Belligerents, war may be commenced, it is most manifest that it would be continued against one only, and it is but too probable, that it would soon involve an alliance with the other. The effects of such an alliance with a nation, whose only distinction between friends and enemies, consists in heaping upon the former, the greatest weight of injuries, and oppression, is so well depicted in the history of our own times, as to require no illustration from us. with such an ally every victory would be deplored as a defeat; & final success would be certain ruin.—

Thus situated, our hope & consolation rest with the Legislature of our state, to whom it is competent to devise means of relief against unconstitutional measures of the General Government.

That your powers are adequate to this object is evident from the organization of the confederacy; and is admited in the elementary treatise upon the Federal constitution written, in part, by the President of these States —

We refrain from suggesting Expedients: but we rely on you to show, that while Massachusetts is second to none of the States in her attachment to the Union, Liberties & honour of the Nation, she cannot [**369**] admit the right, assumed by the National Government of compelling her to abandon the Ocean to renounce commerce, to change the habits of her industry, and submit to be the victim of a desolating policy; but above all we do confidently rely on you, to convince our National Rulers, that we ought not, and cannot submit to be plunged into a ruinous, & unnecessary war with any European Nation.—

We solemnly pledge ourselves, and everything dear to Freemen, to support whatever measures the Legislature of this Commonwealth may think proper to adopt to preserve the rights & Liberties of our Country.

T. H. Perkins per Order

It was then moved & Voted, that the Gentlemen, the Selectmen be a Committee to present this Petition to the Legislature in behalf of the Town.

Cap[t]. Daniel Sargent then arose & offered the following additional Resolutions, which he read in his place, & which being seconded and presented to the Chair they were then read by the Moderator, & passed without debate. — viz.

Whereas the Inhabitants of the Town have expressed, in their Memorial to the Legislature of this State, their opinions on the aspect of our national affairs to the general system of Policy adopted by the National Government, [**370**] and whatever difference of opinion may have heretofore existed on these subjects, yet all men who value personal security and civil Liberty, must now concur in reprobating the arbitrary, unjust, & tyrannical provisions of the act passed on the ninth of this month, for enforcing the Embargo Laws; and it is therefore expedient to declare more fully the sentiments & feelings of the Town on this subject; And, Whereas, this act is in many respects repugnant to the Constitution of the U. States, the State Constitution, and to the fundamental principles of all free Governments;

Inasmuch, as the enjoyment and use of our property, instead of being defined & protected by "*Standing Laws*" are subjected to the arbitrary will of the President, & to the caprice, the ignorance or malevolence of Officers, who may be appointed by him, who are authorized to refuse to *one* Citizen what is permitted to *another*, and to interdict at *one time* what was allowable & lawful *at another :*

Instead of being "secure from unreasonable searches and seizures," we are exposed to the arbitrary power of those officers who, at their own discretion, or according, to secret instructions which they are bound to obey, are authorized to violate all our possessions, to seize any property which they may think fit to consider suspicious, and detain it untill bonds are given to any amount which they may choose to require.

[**371.**] An attempt is even made to deprive us of all remedy by having recourse to the laws and Courts of Justice, where if we complain of injuries committed under this act, by an officer of the United States, he is to be justified and defended not according to published and "*Standing Laws*" but by secret & changeable instructions from the President.— By this act one Citizen is liable to be seriously punished for the conduct of another, with whom, he has no connection whatever, and over whom he has no control.—

Owners of vessels laden under the *inspection* of Custom house officers, with *special permission* of the Collectors, and the express sanction of the Laws are now treated as offenders, & subjected to heavy pecuniary penalties and losses, & are liable even to forfeit the whole, in consequences of a proceeding which was at the time lawful and justifiable.— When exposed by inevitable accident to the rigorous penalties of this act, the citizen is required to exculpate himself by a species of evidence, in many cases impossible to

be produced, and is then left to sue for mercy and pardon to the STAR CHAMBER decisions of an Executive officer. And finally, By this Act our property may be seized and detained by military force; thereby preventing a resort to the civil tribunals & laws of the Country, and destroying subordination of the military to the civil Authority; the standing Army & Militia may be employed for this purpose [372] by any petty officer empowered by the Administration, who may thus at their pleasure involve us in all the horrors of a civil war, or expose us to the more dreadful alternative of a Military Despotism.

Therefore Resolved, That we will not voluntarily aid or assist in the execution of the Act passed on the ninth day of this month, for enforcing the several Embargo Laws; and all those who shall assist in enforcing on others the arbitrary & unconstitutional provisions of this act, ought to be considered as enemies to the Constitution of the United States and of this State, and hostile to the Liberties of this People.—

Resolved, That the raising a large standing Army in a time of profound peace with the name and title of "*Volunteers*" for the purpose of enforcing Arbitrary & unconstitutional Laws, & the attempt to place the Military above the civil authority — though it cannot overaw or dismay this *great* & *powerful* People — yet must be considered as dangerous to Liberty & ought to call forth the most pointed disapprobation of all its friends.—

Resolved, That the example given by that veteran Soldier Gen[l]. Lincoln, & other undeviating Patriots, in resigning Offices intended to be prostituted to subserve the purposes of oppressing the citizens, and enforcing arbitrary edicts, ought to be imitated by all Public officers, and that the Inhabitants of this Town consider it an highly honourable [373] sacrifice of individual emolument to Public welfare. Voted, that these Resolutions be adopted by the Town and printed in the public Papers.—

attest William Cooper Town Clerk.

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be given to Stephen Codman Esq Moderator of this Meeting for his good Services therein.—

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[374.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified & legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall, on Monday the 13th day of March Anno Domini 1809. 10 O'Clock A.M.

Prayer made by Rev[d]. Mr. Cary.—

Warrant for calling this Meeting — read.—

Sundry Laws or extracts of Laws to be read at this Meeting — were accordingly — read.—

Joseph Russell Esq.
chosen Moderator, by a hand Vote & took the Chair.

William Cooper
was chosen Town Clerk for the year ensuing & took the oath of Office, which was Administered to him by Charles Bulfinch Esq.

Votes having been brought in for nine Selectmen, counted & sorted, it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen. viz.

Charles Bulfinch Esq.	Mr. Benjamin Weld
Mr Eben^{r}. Oliver,	William Porter Esq
John May Esq.	Jon^{a}. Hunnewell Esq
Mr Nathan Webb	Francis Wright Esq

Mr. Joseph Foster.

The Votes for a Town Treasurer & Collector of Taxes for the present year, being brought in & sorted, it appeared that
William Smith Esq.
was chosen. —

[**375.**] The Votes being brought in for Overseers of the Poor, it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen — viz.

Edward Procter Esq.	Henry Hill Esq
William Smith Esq.	William Phillips Esq
Redford Webster Esq.	Thomas Perkins Esq.
Mr. Samuel Snelling	Samuel Clap Esq
Mr. Ozias Goodwin	Mr William Mackay
Joseph Coolidge Ju^{r}. Esq.	Mr Jos Richards

Mr Benjamin Goddard, having declined serving, it was Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be given him for his good services, while in that Office.

Thomas Melville Esq.	Joseph May Esq.
And^{w}. Cunningham Esq.	Joseph Head Esq.
Thomas H Perkins Esq.	Gen. John Winslow
Stephen Codman Esq.	John Bray Esq.
Mr Thomas Dennie	Gen Simon Elliot
Jon^{a}. Hunnewell Esq.	Danl. Messinger Esq
Mr. Thomas Curtis	Joshua Davis Ju^{r}. Esq.
Benj^{a}. Smith	Mr. Benjamin Coates
William Sullivan Esq.	Mr. Ignatius Sargent
Mr. Samuel Sweet	Mr. Edward Cruft
Capt. Barker Baker	James Phillips Esq
Bryant P. Tilden Esq.	Nathaniel Curtis

were chosen Fire Wards for the year ensuing.

Voted, that in addition to the Selectmen 12 persons shall now be chosen a School Committee & the Votes being brought in & sorted, it [376] appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen viz

Rev Joseph Eckley D. D.
Rev. J. T. Kirkland D. D.
William Smith Esq.
David Greene Esq
Rev William Emmerson
Charles Davis Esq.
Dr. Thomas Welsh
Dr. Aaron Dexter
Arnold Welles Esq
Hon. John Phillips Esq
John Heard Esq
John Davis Esq.

Voted, that the above named Gentlemen who conjunctly with the Selectmen are termed *the School Committee*, be and hereby are directed to carry the *new System of Education* which has been adopted by the Town, into operation, and said Committee are also, authorized — empowered *conjunctly* to manage & regulate the Officers & the Government of the Schools & in future to execute all the powers relative to the Schools, & School Masters, which the Selectmen or such Committees were Authorized by the Laws of the Commonwealth or the votes of the Town to exercise — any former Votes of the Town notwithstanding.

Votes for a Treasurer of the County of Suffolk brought in & counted by the Moderator & Town Clerk when it appeared that the whole number was 247 & that they were all for Ebenezer Seaver Esq a discreet and suitable person, & a Freeholder & resident in said County.

[377.]

Messrs. William Clouston
John Butterfield
Noah Dogget
Edward Allen
Benjamin White
William Ellison
Nath[l]. Bradley Ju[r]
William Ellison Ju[r]

Messrs. Thomas Christie
William Green
Joseph Stodder
Braddock Loring
John Rice
Eleazer Homer
Allen Bowker
Nath[l]. Glover

John Howe Ju[r]

were chosen surveyors of Boards & Shingles. —

Messrs. Henry Purkett
Mr. Thomas Barbour
Cap[t]. Lem[l]. Gardner
James Uran

were chosen Cullers of Hoops & Staves for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Joseph Doble
Thomas Barbour
Nath[l]. Howe
Benj[a]. Clark
Gershom Spear
Ziba Thayer

Messrs. Jon[a]. Cushing
James Eunson
John Smith
Dan[l]. Cutter
Charles Pook
Hezek[h]. Hudson

were chosen Cullers of dry Fish for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Benjamin White
Thomas Hearsey Ju[r].
William Ellison
were chosen Fence-Viewers for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Barney Connor
John Deluce

Messrs. Israel Mead J[r].
Joseph Cobbet

Rufus Harrington
were chosen Hogreeves for the year ensuing.

Mess Barney Conner
Joseph Cobbet

Mess John Deluce
Rufus Harrington

Israel Mead Jr.
were chosen Haywards for the year ensuing.

Meesrs. Sam[l]. Emmons
Ja[s]. Phillips
were chosen surveyors of Hemp for the year ensuing.

[378.] Messrs. Edw[d]. Tuckerman
Josiah Snelling
were chosen surveyors of wheat for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. John Wells
Rich[d]. Austin
were chosen Assay Masters for the year ensuing.

The Selectmen
were chosen Surveyors of High Ways for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Francis James
Silas Francis
were chosen Inspectors of Lime for the year ensuing.

Voted, Joseph Russell Esq., Sam[l]. Brown Esq. & William Brown Esq.

be and hereby are appointed a Committee to audit the Accounts of the Town Treasurer, & also those of the Overseers of the Poor; & the Board of Health, and said Committee are directed to report the sum necessary to be raised for the Services of the present year. —

Voted, That the consideration of all money matters be referred to May Meeting — Also any other matter which may remain unfinished at this Meeting. —

Jonathan Chapman Esqr. having resigned his seat as a Selectman —

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be given unto Him for his good & faithful services in that office for years past.

The Article in the Warrant — viz. "To appoint Agents or Attornies with Powers to carry into full [**379**] effect the Conditions of the Lease of the Old State House." — was read & considered, Whereupon Voted That the Selectmen be and they hereby are appointed Agents & Attornies in behalf of the Town, with full powers to carry into complete effect the Conditions of the Lease of the Old State House. —

The Article in the Warrant viz "to adopt such measures as may be considered expedient relative to the Claim of Mr. John Leverett to part of the Land on which the Alms house stands" — read & considered — when it was Voted,

That the Selectmen be and hereby are authorized to make such settlement of the claims of the Heirs of Mr. Leverett to a part of the land on which the Alms House stands by compromise or otherwise as they may find expedient: and that if an extinguishment of said claims cannot be obtained upon equitable terms & the same should be adjudged valid in Law; they are hereby authorized to remove any part of said House, & repair the same at the expence of the Town.—

Voted that the Thanks of the Town be & hereby are given the Moderator of this Meeting, for his good services in dispatching the business thereof.—

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[**380.**] At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of 21 years of Age and upwards, qualified as the Constitution prescribes & legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 3^{d}. Day of April Anno Dom. 1809. [10?] O'Clock A.M.—

Prayer. by the Rev. Mr. Holly.—

The Town Clerk informed the Meeting, that all the Gentlemen chosen Selectmen for the present year, had agreeable to a late

Act of the General Court, qualified themselves for that office, by taking the following Oath — viz. "That they would faithfully & impartially discharge the duties of that Office respecting all Elections & the returns thereof" which Oath was Administered to them by Mr. Justice Stevenson. —

attest William Cooper Town Clerk.

Warrant for Calling the Meeting. —read.

Paragraph of the Constitution or Frame of Government relative to the choice of Governour, Lieu^{t}. Governours & Senators — was read.—

It was then declared by the Selectmen that no Vote shall be received, but such as are unfolded, and that they propose the poll to be closed at [blank] O'Clock P.M. the Bells to begin tolling at [blank] and to continue for an hour.—

[**381.**] Persons Voted for as GOVERNOUR — with the number of Votes for each person — viz. —

	Votes
His Honor Levi Lincoln Esq	1952
Hon^{bl}. Christopher Gore Esq	2982
Hon^{bl}. Elbridge Gerry Esq	3
Hon^{bl}. H. G. Otis Esq	3
Hon^{bl}. T. Sedgwick Esq	1
Hon^{bl}. J. Parker Esq	1
Hon^{bl}. D. Cobb Esq	1
Capt. Thomas Webb	1
Hon^{b}. John Q. Adams	1

Persons Voted for as LIEU^{T}. GOVERNOUR, with the number of Votes for each Person — viz.

	Votes
Hon^{bl}. David Cobb Esq	2994
Hon^{bl}. J. B. Varnum	1958
Mr. Joseph Noyes	1

Persons Voted for as *Senators* for the County of Suffolk with the number of Votes for each Person viz.

	Votes
Hon. Harrison G. Otis Esq.	2995
Hon. William Spooner Esq	2987
Hon. John Phillips Esq	2996
Hon. Peter C. Brooks	2998
John Welles Esq	2996
Hon. David Tilden Esq	1946
Samuel Brown Esq	1946
Russell Sturgis Esq.	1943
Edward Procter Esq	1944
Samuel Clap Esq	1942

[382.] Hon. John C. Jones - - - - - - - - - - 5
William Sullivan Esq - - - - - - - - 5
Daniel Sargent Esq - - - - - - - - 3
Hon. William Brown Esq - - - - - - - - 2
Jonathan Hunnewell Esq - - - - - - - 1
G. Cabot 1. Stephen Codman Esq. 1.
John Lowell 1. J. P. Davis 1.
Stephen Higginson Esq. 1. T. H. Perkins 1.
C. Jackson 1. J. Q. Adams 1. C. Gore 1.
E. Gerry 1. Jon^a. Harris 1. S. Procter 1.

Attested Copies of return of the Persons Voted for as GOVERNOUR Lieu^t. GOVERNOUR & SENATORS for the County of Suffolk Sealed up in Town Meeting after the Vote had been declared, to be transmitted to the Secretary of the Commonwealth as prescribed by Law & directed as follows. viz

To Honble. William Tudor Esq.
Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts —

The number of Votes of the Town of Boston for Governour Lieu^t. Governour & five Senators for the County of Suffolk Certified within & sealed up in Town Meeting after the Votes had been declared. —

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[383.] At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of 21 years of age & upwards qualified as the Constitution prescribes and legally warned in Public Town Meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 17th Day of May Anno Domini 1809. 9 O'Clock A M.

The Meeting opened with Prayer by Rev. Dr. Eliot.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

That part of the Constitution or Frame of Government which relates to the choice of Representatives — Read

The Return of the Assessors signifying that the Major & Minor Rateable Polls of this Town for the Present year, were 8368 — being also read — The Inhabitants were then directed by the Selectmen to bring in their Votes for Representatives; not exceeding 37 — and that they propose the Poll shall be closed at ½ past 2 oClk P.M — the Bells to begin tolling at ½ past 1 oClock & to continue to the close of the Poll. —

The Votes being brought in for 37 Representatives, upon sorting

them it appeared, that the following Gentlemen were chosen having obtained a majority of the Votes viz. —

William Smith	Francis Wright
James Robinson	Nathan Webb
William Phillips	Jacob Welsh
Daniel Sargent	Ephraim Thayer
John Callender	Warren Dutton
William Brown	George G. Lee
Jonathan Hunnewell	Charles Davis
Benj^{a}. Russell	Thomas Dennie
Thos. W. Sumner	John Parker
Benj^{a}. Whitman	Eben^{r}. T. Andrews
[384.] John T. Apthorp	Francis D. Channing
William Hammatt	Simon Elliot
Benj^{a}. Bussey	William Sullivan
Joseph Head	Daniel Messinger
Charles Jackson	Josiah Knapp
William H. Sumner	Oliver Keating
Benj^{a}. Weld	Samuel Cobb
Joseph McKean	William Walter

David West

The choice of Representatives having been declared by the Selectmen —

The Meeting was then Dissolved.

[385.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified & legally warned, in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 18th Day of May A.D. 1809. 10 oClk A.M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

Joseph Russell Esq.

was chosen Moderator by a hand Vote.—

The Inhabitants were directed to withdraw and bring in their Votes for 6 Trustees for Towns Land on the Neck in addition to the Selectmen who conjunctly are to Lease & manage said lands in such manner as shall appear to them, to be best for the Interest of the Town — the Votes being brought in and sorted, it appeared that —

Genl. John Winslow	Hon. William Brown Esq
Joshua Davis Junr. Esq	Hon. William Phillips Esq
Edward Tuckerman Esq	William Hammatt Esq

were chosen.

On Motion, Michael Homer,

was chosen an Inspector of Lime, in addition to the two chosen in March.

John Smith

a surveyor of Hoops & Staves in addition.

[**386.**] The Article in the Warrant Viz. "To consider the expediency of repealing the By Law of the Town which directs that Bulls should be kept on the Common"— read & considered — & thereupon *Ordered*, that the Selectmen shall cause two or more Bulls to be provided & kept in such Stable yard or other inclosed place as they shall judge convenient; and shall appoint some suitable person to have the care, management and maintenance of them, and such person shall receive Annually from the owner of each Cow kept in the Town the sum of One Dollar.—

The Subscribers a Committee chosen by the Town March 13th 1809. to audit the Accounts of the Town Treasurer, Overseers of the Poor, Board of health &c &c —And to report the sum necessary to be raised for the present year, having attended that service ask leave to Report —

They have examined the Accounts of the several Departments, & find them right cast & well Vouched —

The Treasurer as follows —

To Notes Receivable	381.50	By Notes for Money Borrowed - - -	40356.58
To due on Tax 1803	770.93	By State Tax - -	2299. 5
To D°. - - 1804	2965.72	By County Tax - -	9793.40
To D° - - 1805	4827.16	By outstanding Debts	18428.19
To D° - - 1806	10951.99	By Mr Tukesbury - -	74.15
To D° - - 1807	15869.60	By Trustees of Neck -	92.16
To D°. - - 1808	33011.53		
To T. Treasurer bal his ℅ - - - -	20063.28		
To Cash on hand 17 May - - - -	201.82		$89,043.53
	$89043.53		

[**387.**] The Abatement on several of the Taxes have not been made, when they are, they will be deducted from the several sums due for Taxes, these Accounts were made up to May 1st since which the Treasurer has received a considerable amount & paid it away to discharge the balance due from the Town.—

The Committee Report an Estimate for the present year as follows.—

School Masters & Ushers	13,300
Repairs of Schools & Wood	1,100
Town Watch	6,500
Town Treasurers Salary	1,500
Three Assessors — 816 each	2,450
Town Clerk	1,000
Police Officers	1,100
Constables Services	500
Paving Streets	10,000
Judge of Municipal Court	750
Messenger of Selectmen	300
Door Keeper	100
Engine Repairs & premiums	600
Lamps & Lighting	7,000
Printing & Stationery	400
Incidental Charges	2,000
Bells & Clock	400
	49,000
For Overseers of the Poor	20,000
For the Board of Health	5,000
Dol^{s}.	74,000

From the above statement your Committee are of Opinion that the Town should raise $70,000, to defrey the Expences of the present year — all which is submitted —

Jos. Russell P^{r}. order.

[**388.**] The aforegoing Report having been read and considered, was accepted by the Town — whereupon

Voted, that the sum of Seventy thousand Dollars be raised by a Tax to be assessed on the Polls and Estates of the Inhabitants of the Town to defray the Expences of the Town the Current year. —

Voted, That the Sum of Seven hundred & fifty Doll^{s}. be allowed & paid unto the Hon. Thomas Dawes Esq for his Salary as Judge of the Municipal Court the present year. —

Voted, That the sum of Fifteen hundred Dollars, be allowed & paid unto William Smith Esq as Treasurer & Collector of Taxes the present year — he to pay his Clerk, Assistant, Office hire & all other expence of Office.

Voted, That the Sum of One Thousand Dollars, be Allowed & paid unto William Cooper for his Salary as Town Clerk the year ensuing. —

Voted, That the sum of Eight hundred & Sixteen Dollars, be

allowed & paid unto each of the three Assessors for their services in that office the year ensuing.

Voted, That the Selectmen publish the Expence of the year as usual. —

The article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. "To consider the application of the Justices of the Court of Sessions that the Town would grant a piece of Land back of the School House in School Street, to build a New Court house upon — was read & considered— Whereupon

[**389.**] Voted, That the Memorial from the Court of Sessions be referred to the Selectmen, and that they be authorized if they think it for the Interest of the Town, to convey any portion of the Towns Land mentioned in said Memorial upon such conditions as they shall think proper.

The Article in the Warrant viz "To ratify the proceedings of the Selectmen relative to Mill Pond, and to grant such further Powers as may be necessary to open & connect the new Streets on the Pond" was read, as also the Communication of the Selectmen on the same subject, which being approved of & accepted by the Town — it was Voted,

That the Selectmen be and hereby are empowered by the Town, to exchange such portion of the Towns part of the Lands in the Mill Pond as may be necessary and expedient in their opinion, to open and widen the Avenues to the new Streets in the Pond. —

On Motion Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given to Joseph Russell Esq for his good services as Moderator in forwarding the business of the Meeting. —

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[**390.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 4th Day of July A:D: 1809. — 9 oClock A.M. —

William Cooper — Chosen Moderator.—

The Committee appointed the last Year to made choice of a Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the Anniversary of Independence —

Reported That they had chosen William Tudor Junr. Esq. who has accepted of the appointment. —

AN ORATION

to commemorate the Independence of the United States was delivered by William Tudor Jur. Esq.

On Motion VOTED, That the Selectmen be a Committee to wait on William Tudor Jr. Esq & in the Name of the Town to thank him for his elegant and Spirited Oration this Day delivered by him at the request of the Town, upon the anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America, in which according to the instruction of the Town the feelings and principles which led to that great National event — and to request of him a Copy thereof for the Press. —

On Motion VOTED that the Gentlemen Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to some able & learned [**391**] Gentleman to deliver an Oration the 4th of July 1810. — That Day being the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America; wherein the Orator is to consider the feelings manners & principles which led to this great National Event; as well as the important and happy Effects, whether General or Domestic, which have already, or will forever flow from that Auspicious Epoch.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[**392.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified & legally Warned in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 2d. Day of August A. D. 1809 — 10 oClock

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

Daniel Sargent Esq was chosen Moderator, by a hand Vote.—

Agreably to the Notification in the Warrant for calling this Meeting, the Inhabitants were directed to "bring in their Votes for a suitable Person to appear as an Advocate in the *Municipal Court* & to conduct the prosecutions therein."—the Votes being accordingly brought in & sorted, it appeared that Peter Thacher Esq — was chosen Town Advocate.—

The other Article in the Warrant Viz. "To consider the expediency of encouraging the continuation of Front-Street, from its present termination at the South Bridge, to the end of the *Brush Hill Turnpike*, near the Roxbury Canal, by a grant to the undertakers of part of the land on the Neck, which will border on said Street."— was read & debated whereupon it was

moved, & Voted, that a Committee of seven persons be chosen to investigate & consider this matter and make Report — thereon at some further Meeting.—

The Votes being accordingly brought in, it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen a Committee for this business. viz.

[**393.**] William Parsons Esq. John Joy
Judge Davis Capt Barnard
Redford Webster Hon. John Phillips Esq.
Mr William Hammatt

On Motion Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to Daniel Sargent Esq for his good services as Moderator of the Meeting.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[**394.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified & legally Warned in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 6th day of November 1809. 10 O'Clock A. M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

Joseph Russell Esq.
chosen Moderator by a hand Vote.—

Report of the Committee for calling the Meeting — read.

Also the proposals of the Selectmen.—

Whereupon *Voted*, that the Board of Health be a Committee to consider the situation of the North Burying Ground — & also the expediency of enlarging said Ground by the purchase of Land adjoining, or of opening the Granary Burying Ground for use of Graves or new Tombs.—

Also, that they be requested to consider & recommend suitable places where *Wharves* may be erected for a removal of *nuisances*, & to suggest any other mode which can be adopted for that purpose — to Report at the Adjournment.—

Voted, that the Town Advocate be directed to enquire into the title of the Town to Snow Hill Street, & to prosecute all trespassers on the Towns Land in that quarter — to report at the Adjournment.—

Report of Committee relative to a new Road, read — whereupon Moved and [**395**] *Voted*, that the report be printed in Hand Bills for the Consideration of the Inhabitants and that it be referred for consideration &c to March Meeting — then to be acted upon.—

On the Article in the Warrant viz "to appoint an Agent or Agents to nominate appraisers & to receive possession of any Real Estate which may be now or any time hereafter set off on execution in favour of the Town" — being read — it was moved & *Voted*, That the Selectmen be & hereby are appointed & empowered, Agents for said purpose.

Adjourned to Monday next 10 o'Clock A.M. being the 13th of Nov. 10 O'Clock A.M.

Novr. 13. The Town met agreeably to Adjournment.

The Moderator informed the Inhabitants that the Town Clerk was unable to attend at this Meeting, being confined to his house by sickness; whereupon it was moved and *Voted* to choose a Clerk pro tempore: a Nomination being called for, & the question taken, Charles Bulfinch Esq was declared to be chosen.

The Board of Health, who were chosen a Committee to consider the subject of the burying grounds, and the mode for future removal of nuisances by Night carts; handed in their Report, which was read & explained by some members of the Committee; when it was moved & *Voted*.

That the report [**396**] be recommitted for revision, that it be afterwards printed in hand bills and distributed to the Inhabitants.

That the Selectmen be directed to call a new Meeting as soon as convenient after the publication of the Report; and insert the particular articles to be acted upon in the Warrant for calling the Meeting.—

Then the Meeting was dissolved.

[**397.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 13 day of December 1809. 10 O'Clock A.M.

Warrant for the Meeting was — read —

Nomination for Moderator was called for.

Stephen Codman Esq
was chosen, but not being present a new nomination was called for, and
Samuel Parkman Esq was chosen: —
he not being present, David Tilden Esq was chosen and Accepted.

The Inhabitants were desired to bring in their Votes for a *Town Clerk*, & it was Voted, to close the poll at 12 O'Clock.

The Votes, being counted, it appeared that the whole number was 1587 and that 794 was necessary for a choice.

That Charles Bulfinch Esq had 108
Joseph Russell Esq 672
Capt. Thomas Clark 789 and that no person had a majority of votes; whereupon Voted, To adjourn the Meeting for choice of Town Clerk, untill tomorrow 14th at 10 O'Clock. —

[398.] Thursday Decr. 14th 10 O'Clock A.M.

The Town met according to Adjournment. —

The Inhabitants were desired to bring in their Votes for *Town Clerk;* and it was declared that the Poll should close at 12 O'Clock. —

The Votes having been counted, it appeared that the whole number of Votes was 2696. —

That 1349 was necessary for a choice. —
That Joseph Russell Esq had 1017.
Capt. Thomas Clark had 1676.
Scattering Votes - 3.

Capt. Thomas Clark was declared to be chosen; he was notified of the choice by attested Copy of the Vote; & signified his acceptance of the office, in writing, and having appeared, the Oath of Office was administered to him by the Moderator David Tilden Esq. Justice of the peace.
Attest Charles Bulfinch
Town Clerk pro Tempore.

The Report of the Committee consisting of the Board of Health, which has been printed for information then read. —

A Motion was made to strike out the first section of the Report, which authorized the purchase of Land, which being put, it passed nearly Unanimously in the Negative. —

A Motion was then made to fill the blanks in the Report with the name of the Board of Health, & that the report should then be accepted — which being debated passed in the Affirmative. —

[**399.**] Voted, that the Town Treasurer be directed to give his Notes to Benjamin Weld Esq., for the amount of the purchase of Land Adjoining the North Burying ground — unless there be sufficient Money in the Treasury to pay the same. —

on Motion Voted, that the thanks of the Town be given to Benjamin Weld Esq. for his Liberality in Offering to relinquish his purchase of Land Adjoining the North Burying Ground for the use of the Town at the cost.

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be given to the Moderator for his good services. —

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[**400.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified & legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 12th day of March Anno Domini 1810. 10 O'Clock A. M.

Prayer made by Rev. Doct Lathrop. —

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read —

Hon John Phillips Esq.
chosen Moderator by a hand Vote. —

Extract of Laws read. —

Thomas Clark
was chosen Town Clerk for the year ensuing, & took the Oath of Office, which was Administered to Him by John Phillips Esq.

Votes having been brought in for nine Selectmen, counted & sorted, it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen. viz.

Charles Bulfinch	William Porter
Ebenezer Oliver	Jon^a. Hunnewell
John May	Francis Wright
Nathan Webb	Joseph Foster &

Benjamin Weld Esquire. —

The Votes for a Town Treasurer & Collector of Taxes for the present year being brought in & sorted, it appeared that

William Smith Esq was chosen.

[**401.**] The Votes being brought in for Overseers of the Poor, it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen viz.

Edward Procter, Esq.
William Smith Esq.
Redford Webster. Esq
Mr. Saml. Snelling
Mr. Willm. Mackay
Mr. Joseph Richards
Henry Hill Esq.
William Phillips Esq
Thomas Perkins Esq.
Capt. Ozias Goodwin
Jos. Coolidge Junr. Esq
Bry^{t}. P. Tilden Esq.

Thomas Melvill Esq.
And^{w} Cunningham Esq.
John Winslow Esq
John Bray Esq
Simon Elliot Esq
Danl. Messinger Esq
Joshua Davis Esq.
Mr Benj^{a}. Coates
Mr Ignatius Sargent
Mr Edwd. Crufts
Bryant P. Tilden Esq.
Mr Nathan Webb
Joseph May Esq
Jos. Head Esq
Step^{n}. Codman Esq
Capt. Thos Dennie
Jon^{a}. Hunnewell Esq.
Mr. Thos. Curtis
Mr. Benj^{a}. Smith
William Sullivan Esq
Mr Saml. Swett
Ja^{s}. Phillips Esq
Mr Nathl. Curtis
Geo. Blanchard Esq

were chosen Fire Wards for the year ensuing.

The Hon. Thomas H. Perkins & Capt. Barker Baker, having declined serving as fire Wards the ensuing year.

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given to The Hon. Thomas H. Perkins & Capt. Barker Baker, for their faithful services as Fire Wards for several years past.—

[**402.**] Voted, that in addition to the Selectmen twelve persons shall now be chosen a *School Committee*, & the Votes being brought in and sorted, it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen. viz.

Rev. Dr. Kirkland
Rev. Wm E. Channing
Dr. Thos. Welsh
Arnold Welles Esq
Hon Wm Prescott Esq
John Heard Junr. Esq
Rev. Wm Emmerson
Dr. Aaron Dexter
David Greene Esq
William Smith Esq
Hon. John Phillips Esq.
Charles Davis Esq.

Voted, that the above named Gentlemen who conjunctly with the Selectmen, are termed the School Committee, be and hereby are directed to carry the system of Education Adopted by the Town into operation: and that the said Committee be Authorized & empowered conjunctly to manage & regulate the Government of the Schools: & to execute all the powers relative to the Schools & School Masters which the Selectmen or such Committees are Authorized by the laws of the Commonwealth or by the Votes of the Town to exercise.—

Voted Unanimously, that the Thanks of the Town be given to

the Hon. John Davis Esq. for his faithful services, as one of the School Committee for several years past.—

Votes for a Treasurer of the County of Suffolk brought in & counted by the Moderator & Town Clerk, when it appeared that the whole number [**403**] was, three hundred & Eighty one & that Ebenezer Seaver Esq a discreet & suitable person a Freeholder & resident in said County, had 302 Votes and William Smith Esq had 79 Votes.

Messrs. Benjamin White
William Ellison
John Butterfield
Noah Doggett
Edward Alline
William Greene
Joseph Stodder
Wm Ellison Junr
John Rice
Richd. Thayer
John Cogswell
William Clouston
Nathl. Bradley Junr.
Braddock Loring
Thomas Christie
Eleazer Homer
Allen Bowker
Nathl. Glover
John Howe Junr.
Ed. J Robbins

were chosen surveyors of Boards & Shingles.

Peter Thacher Esq.— was chosen Town Advocate for the year ensuing.

Adjourned to 3 O'Clock P. M.—

The Town met according to Adjournment.

Henry Purkett Esq.d Messrs. Nathl. Howe, John Smith & James Eunson, were chosen Cullers of Hoops & Staves for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Thomas Barber, Nath. Howe, Hezekiah Hudson, James Eunson, John Smith, Benja. Clark, Gershom Spear, Charles Pook & John Singleton, were chosen cullers of dry fish for the year ensuing.—

[**404.**] Messrs. Benjamin White, Thos. Hearsey & William Ellison, were chosen Fence Viewers for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Barney Connor, John Deluce, Joseph Cobbett, Rufus Harrington & Israel Mead Jr. were chosen Hogreeves for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Barney Connor, Joseph Cobbett, John Deluce, Rufus Harrington & Israel Mead Ju^r^. were chosen Haywards for the year ensuing.

Mr. Samuel Emmons & James Phillips Esq. were chosen Surveyors of Hemp, for the year ensuing.

Edward Tuckerman & Josiah Snelling Esquires, were chosen Surveyors of Wheat for the year ensuing.—

Messrs. John Wells & Richard Austin were chosen Assay Masters for the year ensuing.—

The Selectmen were chosen Surveyors of High Ways, for the year ensuing.—

Messrs. Francis James, Silas Francis & Capt. Michael Homer, were chosen Inspectors of Lime for the year ensuing.—

Voted, That Joseph Russell
Samuel Brown &
William Brown Esquires

[**405**] be and they hereby are Appointed a Committee to audit the Accounts of the Town Treasurer, and also those of the Overseers of the Poor, & the Board of Health. And said Committee are directed to report the sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present year.—

Voted, That the consideration of all money matters, be referred to next May Meeting.

Voted, That the Auditors of Accounts, be requested in their Exhibit, to make a Statement of the debts & income of the Town, & report the same at the next May Meeting.—

Voted, That the Auditors of Accounts together with the Hon. John Phillips Esq. Hon. Benjam^n^. Austin & John Welles Esquires, be requested to take into consideration the resources of the Town, and devise a mode for speedily discharging the Towns debts: also to consider if any improvement can be made in the present system to secure a more prompt collection of Taxes.—

The Article in the Warrant viz. "To consider the request of the heirs of the late Governour Hancock, that the Town will agree with them in such a disposition of their Estate on Beacon Hill, either by sale or exchange of the Towns land, or by a purchase of

the land of the heirs as may be for the interest of both parties." was read — whereupon —

Voted, That the same be Committed to the [**406**] Selectmen, to report their opinion of the best mode of disposing of the Town's land on Beacon Hill, and Report at the May Meeting.

Voted That the Thanks of the Town be given to the Hon. John Phillips Esq. for his services as Moderator of this Meeting.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[**407.**] At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of twenty one years of age & upwards qualified as the Constitution prescribes and Legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 2d. Day of April Anno Domini 1810.— 9 O'Clock A.M.—

Prayer by Rev. Doct. Eckley. —

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read. —

Paragraphs of the Constitution or Frame of Government, relative to the choice of Governour Lieutenant Governour & Senators, were read. — Also, an extract from a Law of the Commonwealth, dividing the State into Districts for the choice of Counsellors & Senators — was read.—

It was then declared by the Selectmen, that no Vote shall be received, but such as are unfolded — that the Poll shall be closed at half past 2 O'Clock P.M. and that the Bells begin tolling at 2 O'Clock & continue for half an hour.—

Persons Voted for as Governour, with the Number of Votes for each Person — viz.

His Excy. Christopher Gore Esq - - - - - - - - -	3076
Honbl. Elbridge Gerry Esq - - - - - - - - - - -	2211
Hon Theodore Sedgwick Esq - - - - - - - - - -	1

Persons Voted for as Lieutenant Governour, with the number of Votes for each Person

[**408**] viz.	His Honour David Cobb Esq. - - - -	3079
	Hon William Gray Esq - - - - - -	2208

Persons Voted for as Senators for the County of Suffolk, with the number of Votes for each Person viz.

Hon. Harrison G. Otis Esq. - - - - - - - -	3079
Hon. John Phillips Esq - - - - - - - - -	3079
Hon. William Spooner - - - - - - - - -	3077
Hon. Peter C. Brooks Esq - - - - - - - -	3078
Hon. John Welles Esq. - - - - - - - - -	3079
Hon. David Tilden Esq. - - - - - - - - -	2199
Samuel Brown Esq. - - - - - - - - -	2198
Edward Proctor Esq. - - - - - - - -	2199
Russell Sturgis Esq. - - - - - - - -	2200
Caleb Bingham Esq - - - - - - - - -	2199
William Sullivan Esq 1. David Townsend Esq - - -	1

Attested Copies or return of the persons Voted for as Governour, Lieutenant Governour and Senators for the County of Suffolk, sealed up in Town Meeting after the Vote had been declared, to be transmitted to the Secretary of the Commonwealth as prescribed by Law & directed as follows — viz.—
To William Tudor Esq Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. — Votes of the Town of Boston for Governour, Lieu^{t}. Governour & Five Senators for the County of Suffolk, sealed up in open Town Meeting.—

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.—

[**409.**] At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of 21 years of age & upwards, qualified as the Constitution prescribed and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 16th. Day of May A.D. 1810 — 9 O'Clock A.M.—

The Meeting opened with Prayer, by the Rev. Doct — Baldwin.—

Warrant for calling the Meeting read. —

That part of the Constitution or frame of Government which relates to the choice of Representatives — read. —

The return of the Assessors signifying that the Major & minor rateable Polls of this Town for the present year were 9557 — being also read —

The Inhabitants were directed by the Selectmen to bring in their Votes, for Representatives; not exceeding 42 — & that they propose the Poll shall be closed at 2 O'Clock — the Bells to commence tolling at half past 1 O'Clock P.M. —

The Votes being brought in, sorted & counted, it appeared at

the close of the Poll, that the following Gentlemen were elected Representatives for the year ensuing — viz

	William Smith	Samuel Cobb
	William Brown	Jon[a]. Hunnewell
	William Sullivan	William Philips
	Francis Wright	Benja Russell
	Daniel Sargent	Thos[s]. W. Sumner
[410.]	John Callender	Benjamin Whitman
	Charles Davis	James Robinson
	Jacob Welsh	William Hammatt
	John Parker	Eben[r]. T. Andrews
	Francis D. Channing	William H. Sumner
	Ephraim Thayer	Josiah Knapp
	Benjamin Weld	Oliver Keating
	Nathan Webb	Dan[l]. Messinger
	W[m] Walter	Warren Dutton
	George G. Lee	Isaac P. Davis
	Thomas Danforth	William Tudor Jun[r].
	Elisha Sigourney	John Winslow
	George Blanchard	Sam[l]. M. Thayer
	Gamaliel Bradford	John May
	William Porter	John Wells
	Nathaniel Curtis	John Chandler

Declaration of the Choice was then made, & the Meeting was Dissolved. —

[411.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified & legally warned, in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 17th. Day of May A.D. 1810 — 10 O'Clock A.M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read —

Hon. William Brown Esq.
chosen Moderator by a hand Vote. —

Thomas Dennie & Simon Elliot Esquires having resigned the office of Fire Wards — James Robinson & Samuel M. Thayer Esquires were chosen Fire Wards for the year ensuing in their Stead. —

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be given to Thomas Dennie & Simon Elliot Esquires for their faithful services as Firewards for a number of years past.

Mr Henry Blake was chosen a surveyor of Boards & Shingles, in place of a surveyor of Lumber deceased.

The Committee appointed at a Meeting of the Town of Boston on the 2d day of August last "to consider the expediency of encouraging the continuation of Front-Street, from its present termination at the South-Bridge, to the end of the Brush-hill Turnpike, near the Roxbury Canal, by a grant to the undertakers of part of the land on the Neck, which will border on said Street," have attended to the duty Assigned to them, & Report as follows:

[**412.**] They find that on the 14th day of June A.D. 1806, by an act to establish the second Brush-hill Turnpike Corporation, authority was given by the Legislature, so to extend the Brush-hill Turnpike, as would effect the Junction thereof with the southern termination of Front-Street,— No measures, however, have been pursued to carry this enterprize into operation; probably on account of the heavy expences necessarily incident to the undertaking, & to the precarious prospect of remuneration to those who should make the requisite advances.—

The plan accompanying this Report will exhibit, with sufficient precision, the course of the intended road; and the Committee are fully convinced, that such an extension of Front-Street would be very advantageous to the Town.— Besides the obvious benefit & convenience of another avenue, in that direction, it appears evident that the Town's land on the Neck, would be increased in value, and the Town would be relieved from the expence of supporting a dyke, which it is now necessary to maintain, between the present road & the Shore.—

The distance from the end of Front-Street to the Towns Marsh, in a direct line over the flats, is one hundred & sixty nine rods.—

The expence of making the road over this extent, according to an estimate exhibited to the Committee, which they believe to be correct, would be 42392 dollars 80 Cents. From the flats to Roxbury landing place, the distance is [**413**] 121 rods, and the computed expence of making the road over this distance, including bridges is $8535.20. the aggregate expence amounting to 50,928 dollars.—

This estimate has been formed from the actual expence of Front-Street

From a view of the whole subject, of the obvious benefit to the Town of Boston from the proposed improvement, of the heavy expence at which it must be accomplished; and of the uncertainty of reimbursement to the undertakers; or of a suitable interest for their expenditures, the Committee consider it reasonable & expedient for the Town, to offer the following inducements to those Gentlemen who may within a reasonable time, procure the contemplated road to be completed. —

1st. Liberty to make the road over the Towns land, free of compensation to the Town, for such portion of their land as may be necessarily occupied by said road.

2d. A grant of the Marsh & flats belonging to the Town, eastward of the road & between the same & the Channel.

3d. A grant of one half of the Towns land on the western side of the proposed road, to the extent of 150 feet from said road, to be assigned to the undertakers, in alternate lots: the whole land comprehended between the westerly side of the road and a line parallel thereto, at 150 feet distance [**414**] (excepting what may be reserved for Streets) being first laid out in convenient lots by mutual arrangement between the undertakers & the Selectmen, or other Agents of the Town.—

The above grants to be gratuitous, but comprizing however, these conditions; that the road be completed within three years from this date; — that it be in every respect conformable to the requirements of the act above mentioned, or to the acceptance of the Selectmen; that Streets be reserved of such number; width & direction, on the western side of said road as are delineated on the plan accompanying this Report, or of such other description as may be satisfactory to the Town or its properly authorized officers: that the space of ten feet on each side of said road shall forever remain unincumbered with buildings, as by agreement respecting the Front Street, subject only to like exceptions as expressed in that agreement, so that the part of said road, which may fall within the Town of Boston, shall correspond in width with Front Street.

Signed, (Boston Nov. 6th. 1809) William Parsons
Tristam Barnard
John Davis, John Joy, Redford Webster, William Hammatt, John Phillips — Committee.

The foregoing Report having been read, a Motion was made to accept the Report of the Committee; which after being debated, & some explanations given by the Moderator — it passed in the Affirmative.—

[**415.**] The Report of the Committee chosen to consider the application of the heirs of Gov. Hancock, being read & debated; a Motion was made that the subject should subside for the present — the question being taken it passed in the negative.—

A motion was then made to refer the further consideration of this Report to the Adjournment — which passed in the affirmative

The article in the Warrant "to consider the claim of the heirs of the late Wm. Cooper Esq. for arrears of the grants in addition to his salary as Town Clerk" — was read together with a statement of facts exhibited by the Selectmen on the same subject — whereupon Voted, That the application of the heirs of the late William Cooper Esq. for the arrears of Grants &c with the Statement of the Selectmen thereon be committed to the Auditors of Accounts and the Committee on the resources of the Town; to report at the Adjournment.

On the Article in the Warrant "viz to consider the expediency of appointing Agents with full powers to compromise with Ward Nicholas Boylston Esq. all the claims of the Town now in suit against him as Administrator on the Estate of Thomas Boylston Esq. deceased" was read & after some debate it was — Voted, That the Selectmen be a Committee to Adjust, settle & compromise all Claims of [**416**] the Town of Boston to the Estate both real and personal of Thomas Boylston, with Ward Nicholas Boylston Administrator with the Will annexed on said Estate, upon such terms & conditions as they or a majority of them shall determine to be for the best interest of the Town under all circumstances; and that they be authorized, upon receiving such compensation, or security for compensation as they may agree upon; to make & execute to said Ward Nicholas Boylston & his Assigns, all such releases, Assignments & Conveyances of their said claims, and all such Letters of Attorney empowering him to recover & receive the same to his use; as they may deem proper.—

Adjourned to Thursday next 10'O'Clock.

Thursday May 24th. 1810.
Met according to Adjournment.

The Report of the Auditors of the Town's Accounts, was read — As also the report of the Committee on the resources of the Town. —

Voted, That the Report of the Committee on the resources of the Town, be printed for the information of the Inhabitants.—

Voted, That an Exhibit of the receipts and expenditures of the Town be printed with the Report of the Committee.—

The Committee to whom was referred the claim made by the Administrator of the late William Cooper Esq. Town Clerk. [**417**] Report that from the lapse of time & other circumstances attending the grant of Two hundred Pounds, which was made in the year 1783, of which one hundred & fifty pounds was never received by him. it would not be proper nor expedient to allow Interest. But in as much as in the year 1806, there was a formal liquidation of his accounts, and at that time there was due to him including all demands Twenty three hundred & fifty eight Dollars thirty two Cents, And as the equity or liberality of the Town might as relates to the services of so ancient and faithful an officer be more confidently appealed to. Your Committee therefore recommend, that the said sum of twenty three hundred & fifty-eight Dollars, thirty two cents be paid which appears to be due, with the further sum of five hundred & sixty five Dollars & ninety two cents, making in all Twenty nine hundred & twenty

four Dollars twenty four cents. Provided the same be received in full for all services & of all demands by the Administrator on Estate of the late William Cooper Esq. as Town Clerk of the Town of Boston.

Boston May 21. 1810.

Signed Samuel Brown
William Brown
Benj[a]. Austin
John Welles

[**418.**] A motion was made & seconded, that the Report be accepted.

The question being put, it passed unanimously in the Affirmative.—

Voted, that the Report of the joint Committee be referred to the Adjournment.

Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourned to Thursday 14th day of June next.—

The Meeting was Adjourned accordingly.

Met According to Adjournment.

The Moderator being absent, The Hon. David Tilden Esq was chosen Moderator pro. tem.—

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the RESOURCES of the Town, and to devise a mode for *speedily discharging* the *Debts*. Also to consider if any improvements can be made to secure a *more prompt collection* of *Taxes*, have attended to these Duties & Offer the following Report for the consideration of their fellow Citizens.—

The Committee in order to comply with the directions given them "to take into consideration the resources of the Town" have thought proper to ascertain the amount of their Debts, and to state particularly the several items which constitute the demands upon them — They find that the sum due from the Town amounts to 128,827 Dollars, which is taken from the following Statement, handed them by the Treasurer — viz.

[**419.**]	On Selectmens drafts - - - - - - - -	6784.56
	Board of Health - - - - - - - -	503.21
	Overseers - - - - - - - - - -	9191.05
	County of Suffolk - - - - - - - -	36417.06
	State Tax for 1809 - - - - - - -	22694.66
	Due at the Banks - - - - - - - -	41000.—
	Due on other Notes - - - - - - -	12236.58
	Dollars	128827.12

The Committee have also received from the Selectmen, the following Document as embracing the Resources of the Town, from whence the foregoing Arrearages are contemplated to be cancelled —

viz. Outstanding Taxes, after deducting abatement of 14000 Dollars - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - $86,224.47
Balance due from Mr. Curtis, for land - - - - 1800.—
Land near South Bridge, Appropriated to meet the Expences of Faneuil Hall valued at - - - 6000.0
Beacon Hill at the lowest estimation - - - - - 12000.—

Doll^{s}.— 106,024.47

Leaving a ballance of 22802. Dollars and 65 Cents, to be provided for from other resources.—

In addition to which, the Committee are informed by a Statement made by the Selectmen, that there is about 16500 feet of land already filled up on the Mill Pond, and that 23000 feet more will be completed in October next and that the Town's proportion of land will be about 150,000 feet when the business is finished.

The lands on the Boston Neck computed [420] at 45 or 50 Acres, are also considered as a valuable and growing property, to be appropriated as occasions require, to discharge the debts, & other exigencies of the Town. —

A further estimate of resources is calculated to arise from Rents & improvements of Faneuil Hall, and the Old State House, which now produce about 10,500 dollars annually. —

The Committee having thus considered the Debts of the Town, which include the balances due on the Alms House, and the enlargement of Faneuil Hall, (expences which probably will not again take place for many years,) do think that a small proportion of the above mentioned Resources of the Town are fully adequate for cancelling our present arrearages, in a few years, provided the expenditures should be conducted upon the principles of economy, which the Committee most earnestly recommend on all Money transactions. —

The Committee however would inform their Fellow Citizens that further Expences to the County will soon be realized from the building of a New Court House, which is contemplated to be erected this Year; but they expect, that the property of the Town as described in this report, together with the usual Annual Taxes will furnish ample Funds for all future exigencies. — The Committee would further Report "On the mode for speedily discharging the Towns Debts" that it be recommended to the Town to empower the Selectmen to sell the 39.500 feet of land which will be filled up on the Mill Pond in October next, together with such parts of the other real [421] Estates as may be thought advisable for raising Forty two Thousand five hundred & Ninety two Dollars Sixty four Cents which is the balance of the Towns debt as Stated by the Auditors of the Treasurer's Accounts.

It is with regret, that the Committee are obliged to observe that a large amount of Taxes is still unpaid, they therefore think it expedient in Order to adopt "some mode for speedily discharging the Town's Debts," to enjoin on the Constables the most prompt attention to the execution of all warrants delivered them by the Treasurer for the collection of Taxes, And, as it is impossible for the debts of the Town to be discharged without some efficient exertions on the Part of the Citizens, the Committee are constrained to call on them to cancel their dues as speedily as possible — Though it is a most unpleasant duty to distress Individuals in the Collection of Taxes, yet the demands upon the Town from its improvements and extension are so pressing, as to make it necessary for every person in arrears to discharge his quota of the Public expences without puting the Treasurer to the disagreeable task of enforcing by Law what Justice requires of the Delinquent. — In Order to which, the Committee recommend to the Town to prohibit the two Months indulgence which has hitherto been enjoined on the Treasurer in collecting Taxes, and leave him to do all which the law directs in the collection — Recommending at the Same time as much discretion and Lenity as the nature and urgency of the Demand will permit. —

[**422.**] The Committee consider the above particulars as embracing the several Subjects committed to them; they therefore submit the above plain and concise statement of the Debts & Resources of the Town, to the candid consideration of their fellow Citizens, for the Purpose of adopting such measures as their wisdom may direct. —

Signed Joseph Russell
William Brown
Samuel Brown
Benjamin Austin
John Phillips
John Welles

The foregoing Report having been read & considered. it was.—

Voted, to accept the Report of the Committee with this restriction, that the lands therein recommended for sale, be not disposed of without further Orders from the Town.—

The Report of the Committee on the Subject of Beacon Hill was again taken up & after considerable debate it was Voted, that the Subject should subside.—

The Committee appointed to Audit the Town's Accounts, have attended that service & ask leave to Report, that they have examined the Town Treasurers Accounts & find them right cast and well vouched — and that the following Account comprises the Debits & Credits of the Town with him

The presumtive deficiency due from the Town (after allowing for the probable abatement of Taxes) [**423**] will be Forty two Thousand five hundred and ninety two Dollars 64 Cents, as Appears below.—

Dr. Due on Selectmens drafts - - - - - - - -	6784.55
" Board of Health - - - - - - - - -	503.21
" Overseers - - - - - - - - - - -	9191.5
" County of Suffolk - - - - - - - - -	36417.6
" State Tax - - - - - - - - - - -	22694.66
" Due at Banks - - - - - - - - - -	41000.—
" Other Notes - - - - - - - - - - -	12236.58
Dolls.	$128,827.11

		Cr.
Outstanding Taxes - - - - -	1803 - - -	750.55
" - - - - -	1804 - - -	2916.57
" - - - - -	1805 - - -	4742.16
" - - - - -	1806 - - -	10536.93
" - - - - -	1807 - - -	13998.48
" - - - - -	1808 - - -	15304.70
" - - - - -	1809 - - -	49940.91
		98190.30
Cash on hand - - - - - - - - -		2034.17
Dolls.		$100,224.47
From this deduct the - - - - probable Abatements - - - -	- - - - -	14,000.—
leaves a deficiency to be - - - - -		86,224.47
provided for - - - - - - - - - -	- -	42,592.64
Dolls.		$128,827.11

The Committee Report an estimate of the expences for the present year, as follows, viz.,

School Masters & Ushers - - - - - - - -	13.800 —
Repairs of Schools Fuel &c - - - - - - -	1.500 —
Town Watch - - - - - - - - - - - - -	6.300 —
Town Treasurer & Collector - - - - - - -	1.500 —
Three Assessors - - - - - - - - - - -	2,448.—
	$25.548 —

[**424.**]	25,548.—
Town Clerk - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1,000.—
Police Officers - - - - - - - - - - -	1,400.—
Constables services - - - - - - - - - -	500.—

Judge Municipal Court - - - - - - - -	750.—
Messenger to Selectmen - - - - - - - -	350.—
Dorr Keeper to Faneuil Hall - - - - - -	100.—
Engines, Repairs &c. - - - - - - - - -	500.—
Bells & Clocks - - - - - - - - - - - -	500.—
Incidental Charges - - - - - - - - - -	2,000.—
Overseers of the Poor - - - - - - - - -	20,000.—
Board of Health - - - - - - - - - - -	6,000.—
Paving Streets - - - - - - - - - - - -	8.000 —
Lamps Oil & Lighting - - - - - - - - -	7.000.—
Printing & Stationery - - - - - - - - -	500.—
Doll^{s}.	$74,148.—
In addition to the above usual expences provision must be made for the award of Referees for widening Exchange Lane	5,000 —
	$79,148 —
Arrears due the Estate of - - - - - - - - William Cooper Esqr ab^{t}. - - - - - - - -	3.000.—
Doll^{s}.	$82.148.—

From the above Statement your Committee are of Opinion that a Tax of Seventy Thousand Dollars should be Assessed the present year on the Inhabitants to defray the expences of the Town —

all which is submitted.—

Signed Joseph Russell
Samuel Brown
William Brown

[**425.**] Boston 22^{d}. May 1810.

The foregoing Report having been read & considered — it was,

Voted to accept the report of the Committee with this Amendment, viz, to add Twelve Thousand Dollars to the Report, for the purpose of paying for Land purchased of Mr. Weld on Cops Hill, and other purposes.— and it was

Voted, that the Sum of Eighty Two Thousand Dollars be raised by a Tax to be Assessed on the Polls & Estates of the Inhabitants of the Town, to defray the expences the current year.—

Voted, that the sum of Seven hundred & fifty Dollars, be allowed & paid unto Hon. Thomas Dawes Esq. for his Salary as Judge of Municipal Court the present year.—

Voted, that the sum of Fifteen hund Dollars be allowed &

paid unto William Smith Esq. as Treasurer & Collector of Taxes the present year, he to pay his Clerk, Assistant, Office hire and all other expences of Office.—

Voted, that the sum of one Thousand Dollars be allowed & paid unto Thomas Clark for his salary as Town Clerk the year ensuing.—

Voted, that the sum of Eight hundred & Sixteen Dollars be allowed & paid unto each of the three Assessors for their services in that Office the year ensuing.—

Voted, that the Sum of Five hundred Dollars be allowed & paid unto the Town Advocate for his Salary the year ensuing — he to account with the Town for all fees received by him, & that he be [426] allowed to retain all fees received by him from the first of August, to the first day of March last, as his Salary.

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given to the Moderators of this Meeting, for their services.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 4th day of July A.D. 1810. 9 oClock A.M.

Thomas Clark, was chosen Moderator.—

The Committee Appointed the last year to make choice of a Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the Anniversary of Independence — Reported,
That they had chosen Alexander Townsend Esq. who has accepted of the appointment.—

Adjourned to the old South Church 12 °Clock — where —

AN ORATION

was delivered by Alexander Townsend Esq., to commemorate the Independence of the United States of America.

on Motion, Voted, that the Selectmen be, and hereby are appointed a Committee to wait on Alexander Townsend Esq., in the name of the Town, and thank him for the elegant and Spirited Oration, this day delivered by him [427] at the request of the Town, upon the Anniversary of American Independence, in which were considered the feelings, manners, and principles, which produced

the great national event; and to request of him a Copy for the press. —

Voted that the Gentlemen, Selectmen be & hereby are appointed a Committee, to apply to some able & learned Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the 4th day of July 1811. — That day being the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America; wherein the Orator is to consider, the feelings, manners, and principles which led to this great National Event; as well as the important & happy effects, whether General or Domestic, which have already, or will forever flow from that Auspicious Epoch. —

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 1st. day of August A.D. 1810. 10 °Clock A.M. —

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

Hon. Thomas Dawes Esq Chosen Moderator.

[**428.**] The Article in the warrant viz, "upon the Petition of a number of the Inhabitants, to consider the expediency of continuing to dig up & remove from their graves to a *Common Vault*, the remains of bodies heretofore deposited, in the Granary Chapel & North burying grounds, with a view to appropriate anew the *same entire grounds*, to the interment of the dead, & whether it be not expedient, for reasons set forth in said petition to discontinue altogether, the practice of burying in graves, in the Chapel and Granary Grounds; and to consider what other lands in the outskirts of the Town may be appropriated to this object." — was read — and after some debate it was — Voted

That, Hon. Harrison G. Otis
James Prince &
Arnold Welles Esqrs.

be a Committee to take up the Subject of said petition at large, and report at the Adjournment. —

The other article in the Warrant, viz, to consider & Act upon the petition of a number of the members of the 3d. Artillery Company, that they may be permitted to erect a Gun House on the summit of Fort Hill, for the use of said Company — was read — and Committed to Maj. Chs. Curtis, Gen John Winslow & David Tilden Esqrs. to report at the adjournment. —

Adjourned to Friday next 10 oClock A.M.

[429.] Friday August 3d. 1810. 10 oClock A.M.
Met according to Adjournment.—

The Committee to whom was refere'd the Petition of a number of the Inhabitants relative to the subject of the burying grounds respectfully Report —

That in the opinion of your Committee, the board of health have proceeded with the greatest prudence, circumspection & regard to decorum in executing the Authority given to them by the Town and sanctioned by the Legislature and the regulations adopted by them relative to funerals are judicious, and if steadily pursued will prove conducive to the convenience and advantage of the Town.—But such is the present crowded state of the Granary & Chapel burying grounds as to render it expedient to discontinue the opening of graves therein, untill some urgent and absolute necessity shall require a renewal of this practice.—

And they recommend the following resolution.

That the burial of the dead in graves in the Granary & Chapel burying grounds be discontinued and that the same be not Considered as Common burying grounds untill the further order of the Town, saving to the proprietors of Tombs the right of using their private property.—

That the Selectmen be requested to locate such tract of land belonging to the Town on the Neck, as in their judgment shall be sufficient and best adapted for a burying ground, and to enclose & prepare the same for that purpose.—

[430.] That the board of health be requested to discontinue their Operations in the Chapel and Granary burying grounds, except such as may be necessary to Complete the cemeteries and Tombs already begun under their Authority.—

That the public cemeteries already constructed in the burying grounds be used as temporary repositories for the dead, subject to such regulations as the board of health may prescribe, & that the board of health be invested with full powers to make requisite rules and ordinances for the removal of bodies from said cemeteries to the Common burying grounds, and for indemnifying the Town from the expence incident to such removal with such exceptions & Conditions as they may deem reasonable.—

H. G. Otis, Per Order.

The foregoing report having been read, considered & debated, a Motion was made to strike out the Preamble of the Report,—The question being taken it passed in the Negative.—

The Report was then considered by paragraphs & Accepted by a very large Majority.

Boston Augt. 2^{d}. 1810 —

The undersigned, appointed a Committee by the Town, on the petition of the 3^{d}. Artillery Company, are of opinion that the prayer of said petition ought not to be granted.—

Signed. Ch^{s}. Curtis
John Winslow
D. Tilden.

[**431.**] The foregoing report was Accepted.—

It was then Moved, & Voted, that the Selectmen be authorized to locate a lot of land on the east side of Fort Hill below the Circus for the use of the 3^{d} Artillery Company, untill the further Order of the Town.—

Voted, that it is the sense of the Town that the Gun House on Copps Hill should be removed to some suitable part of the land lately purchased by the Town.—

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be given to the Moderator of this Meeting.—

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[**432.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified and legally warned, in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil hall on Monday 5th day of November A.D. 1810. 9 oClock A.M.—

Prayer by Rev Mr. Emmerson.—

Warrant for Calling the Meeting — read —

Paragraphs of a Resolve of the General Court for Choosing one Representative for Suffolk District — read —

The Inhabitants were informed that the Poll would be closed at 2 oClock — Bells to Commence tolling at half past 1 °Clock.—

Persons Voted for as a Representative for the Suffolk District in this Commonwealth in the next Congress of the United States — viz —

For Hon. Josiah Quincy Esq. Nineteen hundred and Nine.—
For Hon. David Tilden Esq. Six hundred & forty.
For John C. Jones Esq.— One.
For Deacon David Goodwin — One.
For David Everett Esq. — One - - - - - - - - - And declaration thereof made by the Selectmen in Public Town Meeting.—

A return of the doings of this Meeting was made out, (conformable to the one in the Town Officer) and put into the hands of Mr. Sheriff Bradford to be by him given to Benjamin Homans Esq. Secretary of this Commonwealth.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

1811.

[433.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified & legally warned in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 11th Day of March A.D. 1811. — 10 °Clock A.M. —

Prayer by Rev Mr Buckminster. —

Warrant for Calling the Meeting — read —

Stephen Codman Esq
Chosen Moderator. —

Extract of Laws — read. —

Thomas Clark.
was chosen Town Clerk for the year ensuing — The Oath of Office was administered to him by Stephen Codman Esq. —

Charles Bulfinch	John May
William Porter	Francis Wright
Ebenezer Oliver	Joseph Foster
Jonathan Hunnewell	Nathan Webb, and

Benjamin Weld. Esquires,
were Chosen Selectmen for the year ensuing. —

William Smith Esq.
was Chosen Town Treasurer and Collector of Taxes for the year ensuing. —

[434.]	William Smith	William Mackay
	William Phillips	Joseph Coolidge Junr.
	Redford Webster	Joseph Richards
	Thomas Perkins	Bryant P Tilden
	Samuel Snelling	Ephraim Eliot and
	Ozias Goodwin	Jonathan Phillips Esquires

were Chosen Overseers of the Poor.

Edward Proctor & Henry Hill Esqrs. having declined a re-election as Overseers of the Poor — it was —

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given to Edward Proctor & Henry Hill Esquires, for their faithful services as Overseers of the Poor for many years past. —

Thomas Melvill	Andrew Cunningham
Joseph May	Joseph Head
John Winslow	Edwd. Cruft
Stephen Codman	James Phillips
John Bray	Bryant P. Tilden
Jon^{a}. Hunnewell	Nathan Webb
Danl. Messinger	George Blanchard
Benjamin Coats	Samuel M. Thayer
[435.] William Sullivan	Joseph Tilden
Benjamin Smith	Thomas Page
Ignatius Sargent	Joseph Austin — and —
Nathl. Curtiss	Benjamin Rich Esquires,

were Chosen Firewards for the year ensuing.—

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be given to Thomas Curtis, Joshua Davis, Samuel Swett and James Robinson Esqrs. for their Services as firewards the year past.—

Voted, That in addition to the Selectmen twelve persons shall now be chosen a *School Committee*, & the Votes being collected it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen — viz,

Rev. W. Emmerson	Rev. W. E. Channing
Rev. Jos. S. Buckminster	Dr. Aaron Dexter
Dr. Thomas Welsh	Arnold Welles Esq.
David Greene Esq.	William Smith Esq.
Charles Davis Esq.	John Heard Ju^{r}. Esq.
John Phillips Esq.	W^{m}. Prescott Esq.

Voted, That the above named Gentlemen who conjunctly with the Selectmen, are termed the [436] School Committee, be and hereby are directed to carry the System of Education, Adopted by the Town into operation; and that said Committee be also Authorized & empowered conjunctly to manage & regulate the Government of the Schools; and to execute all the powers relative to the Schools & School Masters, which the Selectmen or such Committees are Authorized by the Laws of the Commonwealth or by Votes of the Town to exercise.—

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be given to Rev. Dr. Kirkland for his faithful services as one of the School Committee for many years past.—

Votes — for a County Treasurer, for the County of Suffolk brought in and counted by the Moderator & Town Clerk when it appeared that Ebenezer Sever Esq. had, 340 Votes, Josiah Batchelder Esq. had 2 Votes and William Smith Esq. had one Vote.—

Voted, That the Selectmen Count and Sort the Votes for a Register of Deeds for the County of Suffolk.

Votes, for a County Register of Deeds, for Suffolk were brought in & Counted, it appeared that the whole number was 440. & that they were all for William Alline Esq.

Messrs.	Benjamin White	Messrs. Eleazer Homer
	John Cogswell	Joseph Stodder
	William Clouston	Allen Bowker
[437.]	William Ellison	William Ellison Junr.
	John Butterfield	Nathl. Glover
	Nathl. Bradlee Junr.	John Howe Junr.
	Noah Doggett	Richard Thayer
	Braddock Loring	Edward J. Robbins
	Thomas Christie	Henry Blake
	William Green	Joseph Tucker.

were chosen Surveyor of Boards & Shingles for the year ensuing.

William Minot Esq.
was Chosen Town Advocate for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Henry Purkett, Nathaniel Howe, John Smith & James Eunson were Chosen Cullers of Hoops & Staves.

Messrs.	Thos. Barber	Messrs. Samuel Smith
	Hezekiah Hudson	Nathl. Howe
	John Smith	James Eunson
	Gershom Spear	Benjamin Clark

Charles Pook,
were Chosen Cullers of dry fish, for the year ensuing.—

[438.] Messrs. Benjamin White
William Ellison and
Nathl. Bradlee Junr.
were Chosen Fence Viewers for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Barney Conner
Joseph Cobbett
John Deluce
Rufus Harrington and
Israel Mead Junr.
were Chosen Hog-reeves. —

Messrs. Barney Connor
Joseph Cobbett
John Deluce
Rufus Harrington and
Israel Mead Junr.
were Chosen Haywards.—

Samuel Emmons and
James Phillips Esqrs.
were Chosen Surveyors of Hemp for the year ensuing.

Edward Tuckerman and
Josiah Snelling Esqrs.
were Chosen Surveyors of Wheat.—

Messrs. John Wells and
Richard Austin,
were Chosen Assay Masters.—

The Selectmen, were Chosen Surveyors of Highway.—
Messrs. Francis James, Silas Francis and Michael Homer, were Chosen Inspectors of Lime.—

[**439.**] Voted, That Samuel Brown, William Brown & Stephen Codman Esquires be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee to Audit the Accounts of the Town Treasurer, and also those of the Overseers of the Poor, & the Board of Health and said Committee are directed to report the sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present year.—

Voted, That the Consideration of all money matters be referred to the next May Meeting —

On a Motion made by James Prince Esq. it was.—
Voted, That at the next meeting of the Wards for the purpose of electing the Board of Health and Assistant Assessors, there be Chosen a Committee to consist of one person from each Ward, to enquire into the pecuniary concerns of the Town, and Report the state of their Property whether, real, mixed or personal.— The amount of debts due by the Town whether to Banks or individuals, what property has been appropriated for specific purposes; and also of all debts due to the Town & generally to enquire into all matters & things relative to the monied concerns of the Town, and what savings may be made in the current expences in future — and said Committee shall digest and prepare a report on the subject which they shall present to the Selectmen who shall cause the same to be printed and distributed among the Inhabitants ten days at least before the May Meeting.—

[**440.**] Voted, That the Selectmen take measures to carry the foregoing Vote into effect.—

The Article in the Warrant viz "to Appoint Agents to Answer to an indictment found against the Town for a nuisance, occasioned by discharging Night carts & other filth, from the wharf at the end of Leverett Street."— was read — whereupon Voted, That the Selectmen be appointed Agents, to appear at Court in behalf of the Town & defend the Suit.

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be given to Stephen Codman Esq. for his services as Moderator. —

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[441.] At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of twenty one years of Age and upwards qualified as the Constitution prescribes and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled At Faneuil Hall on Monday the first day of April Anno Domini 1811. 9 °Clock A.M.—

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Lowell. —

Warrant for Calling the Meeting — read —

Paragraphs of the Constitution or Frame of Government, relative to the Choice of Governour, Lieutenant Governour and Senators, were read. —

It was then declared by the Selectmen, that no Vote shall be received but such as are unfolded. — That the Poll shall be closed at half past two O'Clock P.M. and that the Bells begin tolling at 2 O'Clock & continue for half an hour. —

Persons Voted for as Governour, with the number of Votes for each person. Viz.

His Excellency Elbridge Gerry Esq. - - - - -	1879
Hon Christopher Gore Esq. - - - - - - - - -	3128
Hon. Harrison G. Otis Esq. - - - - - - - - -	3
Hon. Theodore Sedgwick Esq. - - - - - - - -	1
Hon. Levi Lincoln Esq. - - - - - - - - - -	2
Hon. John Adams Esq. - - - - - - - - - -	1
Zachariah G. Whitman Esq. - - - - - - - - -	1

Persons Voted for as Lieutenant Governour, with the number of Votes for each person — Viz. —

[442.] His Honour William Gray Esq. - - - - - - - -	1878
Hon. William Phillips Esq. - - - - - - - - -	3128
Hon. William Heath Esq. - - - - - - - - -	1
Hon. John Phillips Esq. - - - - - - - - - -	1
Hon. John Welles Esq. - - - - - - - - -	1

Persons Voted for as Senators for the County of Suffolk, with the number of Votes for each person — viz. —

Hon. Harrison G. Otis Esq. - - - - - - - - -	3125
Hon. John Phillips Esq. - - - - - - - - - -	3130
Hon. John Welles Esq. - - - - - - - - - -	3133
Hon. Peter C. Brooks Esq. - - - - - - - - -	3123
Daniel Sargent Esq. - - - - - - - - -	3120
Hon. David Tilden Esq. - - - - - - - - - -	1871
Samuel Brown Esq. - - - - - - - - - -	1872
Russell Sturgis Esq. - - - - - - - - -	1872
Mr. Caleb Bingham - - - - - - - - - - -	1870
Mr. William Little - - - - - - - - - - -	1866

	William Sullivan	5	Sam[l]. Dexter	1
	Josiah Bacheldor	1	Tho[s]. C. Amory	1
	William Phillips	1	Jonathan Amory	1
	Charles Jackson	2	Dr. James Jackson	1
	William Prescott	1	Tho[s]. H. Perkins	1
	Benj[n]. Whitman	1	Arnold Welles	1
	Benj[n]. Weld	1	Jesse Putnam	1
	Jon[a]. Hunnewell	1	David Townsend	1
	Robert Gardner	1	Tho[s]. K. Jones	1
	John C. Jones	1	John Heard	1
	Lemuel Hayward	1	Nath[l]. Brewer	1
	Joseph Jones	1	Benjamin Austin	1
[443.]	Edward Procter	1	Jeremiah Bridge	1
	Daniel Baxter	1	William Noyes	1
	Amos Binney	1		

Attested Copies or return of the persons Voted for as Governour, Lieutenant Governour & Senators for the County of Suffolk sealed up in Town Meeting after the vote had been declared, to be transmitted to the Secretary of the Commonwealth as prescribed by law & directed as follows — viz.

To Benjamin Homans Esq. Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Votes of the Town of Boston for Governour, Lieutenant Governour, & five Senators for the County of Suffolk, Sealed up in open Town Meeting. —

Then the Meeting was Dissolved

[444.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, qualified as the Constitution prescribes & legally warned in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 16th day of May A.D. 1811 — 9 O'Clock A.M. —

Prayer made by Rev. Mr. Mitchell.

Warrant for Calling the Meeting — read. —

That part of the Constitution or Frame of Government which relates to the Choice of Representatives — read —

The return of the Assessors signifying that the Major & Minor ratable Polls of this Town for the present year were 10,018 — being also read —

The Inhabitants were directed by the Selectmen, to bring in their Votes for Representatives; not exceeding 44 — and that they propose the Poll be Closed at half past 1 O'Clock — the bells to commence tolling at 1, O'Clock. —

The Votes being brought in, sorted & counted, it appeared at the close of the Poll, that the following Gentlemen were Elected Representatives for the year ensuing - - (viz.) - - - -

	William Smith Esq.	Samuel Cobb Esq.
	Hon. William Brown	Jon^{a}. Hunewell Esq.
	William Sullivan Esq.	William Phillips Esq.
	Dea. Francis Wright	Benjn. Russell Esq.
	Mr. Thos. W. Sumner	Benjn. Whitman Esq.
	Charles Davis Esq.	James Robinson Esq.
[445.]	William Hammatt Esq.	Mr. John Parker
	Mr. Edward T. Andrews	Mr. Isaac P. Davis
	William H. Sumner Esq.	Mr. Ephraim Thayer
	Mr. Josiah Knapp	Mr. Benjn. Weld
	Oliver Keating Esq.	Mr. Nath^{n}. Webb
	Daniel Messinger Esq.	George G. Lee Esq.
	Mr. John Chandler	Mr. William Porter
	John May Esq.	Saml. M. Thayer Esq.
	George Blanchard Esq.	Mr. Nathl. Curtis
	Hon W^{m}. Prescott	Hon. Artemas Ward
	Alex^{r}. Townsend Esq.	Mr. Rich^{d}. Faxon
	Mr. John D. Howard	Mr. Thacher Goddard
	Samuel J. Prescott Esq.	Mr. Jon^{a}. Whitney
	Mr. Lynde Walter	Mr. Samuel Dunn
	Lemuel Shaw Esq.	James Savage Esq.
	Mr. Jon^{a}. Loring	Mr. John G. Coffin

declaration of the choice was then made. —

On Motion, Voted that this Meeting be adjourned to Saturday next 10 O'Clock — to supply the places in the number of Representatives, of any persons who may decline accepting the appointment & to complete the business of the Meeting.

Adjourned.

Saturday 10, O'Clock A.M.

Met according to Adjournment —

no resignation having taken place among the Gentlemen Chosen Representatives. —

The Meeting was Dissolved.

[446.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned, in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 27th. Day of May A.D. 1811. 10 O'Clock A.M. —

Warrant for Calling the Meeting — read. —

Stephen Codman Esq.
was Chosen Moderator.

Rev Charles Lowell
was Chosen one of the School Committee in place of Rev. William Emmerson deceased. —

The Committee chosen in the several Wards, in pursuance of a Vote of the Town having requested a full communication from the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, Board of Health, and Town Treasurer and Collector, & having received their several reports, and maturely weighed and considered the same, ask leave to report.—

That they find the real estate of the Town consists of the following pieces, of the value of which the Committee are unable to judge, and have therefore submitted the rents of such of them as are leased, and the value set upon them by the Selectmen in their report to this board.—

Faneuil Hall and Old State House, the rents of which are stated at - - - - -	$10,700, Pr. Annum
New Stalls in Market, and the Old ones, The rents estimated at - - - - - - - -	1332.67
[447.] Land by south Bridge, extending 290 feet on the Street leading to the Bridge, together with the right of the flats on each side to the channel valued at - -	$6000.—
Towns land on Beacon Hill - - - - -	12000.—
Land opposite the Mall at the South end of New block of Buildings -	10000.—
Land in the Mill pond already filled up. -	16500 feet —
Land contracted to be filled up 1st. June -	23000 do —
Land to which the Town will be finally entitled when the whole Pond shall have been filled up exclusive of canal, Streets, or Markets - - - - - - - - - - - - -	150,000 do —

About 1600 feet of land near South Boston Bridge under contract to Deacon Brown.—

Between 40 and fifty Acres of land upon the neck which has been judiciously laid out into Streets and lots, but for which there is at present no demand.—

The Committee cannot find, that under the description of "personal or mixed" property, the Town possess any other than the amount either paid or still due for sales of land on the Neck, amounting in the whole to 12999 dollars 16 Cents.—

This sum was originally intended to be reserved as a fund under the management of the trustees of the neck land, to accumulate untill it should amount to such a sum as would meet the annual expences of the Town; but the Committee find that it

has been paid into the Treasury — ; and the Inhabitants are responsible for the amount to the said Trustees of the Neck land.—

[448.] They cannot perceive any advantage resulting to the Town, while it continues so deeply in debt, in reserving a fund for which the Inhabitants are paying interest, while the Town itself is indebted in much larger sums carrying Interest. —

They therefore recommend, that the amount of the Sales of this land, already received, and such as may be hereafter received, should be applied to the extinction of so much of the debts due by the Town, carrying interest. —

In obedience to the second direction in their Commission, to inquire into the amount "of the debts due by the Town whether to Banks or individuals," the Committee report, that from the returns made to them by the Town Treasurer the debts due by the Town are as follows. —

Notes payable to sundry Banks.	
Massachusetts Bank - - - - - - - -	$8000—
United States Bank - - - - - - - -	900—
Boston Bank - - - - - - - - - -	4000—
Union Bank - - - - - - - - - - -	23000—
Notes to individuals - - - - - - - - - - -	
Benjamin Barker - - - - - - - - -	1544.17
Elizabeth Partridge - - - - - - - -	772. 8
	$38216.25
Selectmen of Boston* - - - - - - - -	1230.—
Estate of John Gray - - - - - - - -	107.—
Tuthill Hubbards heirs - - - - - - -	3024.15
Benjn. Weld on account burial ground - - - -	1500.—
Leveretts heirs for Alms house land - - - - -	2239.84
R. G. Shaw for Fore Street - - - - - - -	1000.—
Henry Sargent for Exchange Lane - - - - - -	3000.—
	$50317.24

[449.]

The Committee moreover find due to sundry Corporations & persons not on Note, as follows, viz.—

State Tax - - - - - - - - - - - - -	20081.98
County Tax - - - - - - - - - - - - -	49316.99
Selectmens drafts † - - - - - - - - -	21663.27
Board of Health - - - - - - - - - -	691.46
Overseers - - - - - - - - - - - - -	10287.83

The Committee cannot discover any property specifically ap-

*This sum is a charitable fund under the direction of the Selectmen.

† This Sum includes the Sum of $484 due to the Trustees of the Neck land.

propriated exclusive of the land and buildings used for Schools and other purposes which cannot be diverted from their present appropriations.

They find the debts due to the Town exclusive of the amount due for the Neck land as above stated, to consist of the arrearages of Taxes from the year 1803 to 1810 inclusive, which amount in the whole to the very important sum of $109,000. —

The Committee have thus discharged in the best manner in their power all the specific and well defined objects of their Commission; but they cannot overlook the manifest intention of the Town, in the general authority given them to "inquire generally into the monied Concerns of the Town, and what savings may be made in the current expences in future."

[**450.**] The former part of this general and comprehensive clause may be construed into an Authority, and perhaps an obligation, to Suggest any improvement in the management of the Town's financial concerns which might occur to the Committee, while the latter seems to be confined simply to the Subject of economical savings in the detail of the Annual expenditure —

The Committee, called suddenly and unexpectedly to the exercise of this important duty, unacquainted as they were, & must be presumed to be with the fiscal arrangements of the Town, adopted the measures which they conceived the most proper to enable them to ascertain what savings might be made in the different departments of municipal policy, by Calling upon all the public functionaries, who are justly presumed to have the Confidence of the people, by their being freely and with great unanimity elected to their Offices, from their several statements, which will be returned with this report, it was found that no material savings could be expected in any essential part of the annual expenditure.— Then indeed we consider the numerous and highly important objects for which the taxes of the Town are employed, and that these subjects have been annually investigated by committees, and more especially the last year by a large and respectable one, composed of persons of different political Opinions, who were unable to discover that any material savings could be made in the annual expences of the Town, and particularly as the estimate of the expences for the [**451**] Current year falls short of the sum granted the last year more than five Thousand Dollars, the Committee cannot venture to recommend to the Town any diminution in the Allowances for this years expences other than those which are recommended by the Offices of the Town — But although the Committee are unable to recommend any specific savings in the Annual expences of the Town, yet under the general authority to "enquire into" the monied concerns of the Town" they feel themselves not only authorized but obliged to state that it is apparent to your Committee, that from the imperfect manner in which the taxes have been Collected, the affairs of the Town are in a state of derangement ill suited to its Interest, to its ability, or its credit.—

A debt of 152,000 dollars which is balanced only by a debt due

to the Town upon past taxes of 109,000 dollars, one third of the former bearing interest, while the whole of the latter carries no interest, exhibits such marks of improvidence, as Calls for an imediate remedy.— It must also be observed that while the debts due from the Town must be discharged at their face, a very Considerable proportion of the sum due to the Corporation may never be Collected.—

Happily however the relief is in our own power, the means proposed to remedy this evil are of two kinds.—

1st. To dispose of so much of the Towns property, as will place them in a state of Independence.—

[**452.**] 2ndly. To Alter the System of Collection in future in such a manner as may prevent the recurrence of a deficiency so mortifying and injurious to the interests of the Town.—

As to the first, it would not be expedient for the Town at the present moment, to force the Sales of any part of their property which is not in demand; but it is thought by your Committee, that the land lying on the Street leading to South Boston Bridge, the Lot opposite to the mall, and the land on Beacon Hill, may be Sold at as high a price as it will probably produce at any future day, especially when it be considered that it produces no income, and the loss to the Town, from Keeping the land in an unproductive state, is not less than 1500 dollars Per Annum; and your Committee are further of opinion, that the erection of valuable houses on the said vacant lands, will not only furnish a new fund for taxation but will promote the growth and prosperity of the Town.—

The Committee would remark as a further inducement to this sale, that if the lands thus disposed of should produce the sum at which they are estimated, it would reduce the present large balance due from the Town, to a sum not much exceeding 20,000 dollars which might easily be sunk in the taxes to two years —

As to the 2d. point the collection of taxes, no argument need be used, beyond the simple state of facts to prove, that the present mode is most deficient, wasteful, and ruinous. —

[**453.**] A defect in the Collection of 109,000 Dollars, not more than 43,000 of which is for the last year, and the whole of which has been due more than four Months and some of it several years without interest, speaks a language which cannot and ought not to be mistaken.—

In what manner is this to be remedied?

Two considerations have suggested themselves to your Committee.—

The one to abolish the premium paid to the wealthy part of the community for doing what the law and the moral obligation arising from the duty they owe the Town, would induce them to do without such Premium.—

The other by altering the times and mode of Collection to insure as much punctuality in the Collection of the Town taxes, as is found in the Collection of the taxes due to the United

States, which are surely not of a more imperious or important nature.—

As to the first it originated in a disposition to Change a delatory & injurious mode of Collection, which had formerly crept into the practices of the Town. —

The opulent were bribed by the tender of a premium to do that which their own best interests and their patriotism ought to have induced them to do without it. —

What would be thought of an individual heavily in debt who, when he had large sums of money fairly due from his neighbours, should offer them a [**454**] premium to pay the debts they had voluntarily Contracted? what still more be thought of such a man if like this Town he paid an high usurious interest for money which he borrowed of his debtor, who had then owed him the same sum more than six months?

But if the Town must resort to loans to anticipate the Collection of its just debts, is there no mode of procuring them short of an usurious premium? Is the Credit of this opulent Town whose Corporate property vastly exceeds its debts, and may be reasonably estimated at half a million of dollars, so low that it is unable to procure money on a pledge of its taxes, short of one p^r^. Cent per month?

If this indeed be the case, we ought to blush that the Town cannot find among its citizens a man of ordinary financial abilities, or of a moderate share of public spirit.—

But this is not so. The mischief has been tolerated, because it was not the peculiar duty of any individual to remedy it. — The inhabitants voluntarily inflicted the penalty upon themselves; they have suffered enough for it; they have paid more than 20,000 dollars in premiums to their own debtors, because they would not as all other Towns do, compel them to pay.—

But our citizens will wish, we hope, to wipe away this stain; they will pay in future cheerfully without a premium, after having been indulged Six Months from the first of May when the tax is presumed to be Assessed.—

For what debt is there more honorably obligatory than that due to the Town.—

[**455.**] It is incurred for the education of our children; for the preservation of our health; for the godlike charity of Supporting our poor; for the preservation of our lives & limbs by repairing and lighting our Streets. These form three quarters of our annual expenditure.—

The money ought to be paid at sight; such is the law of the State; such is the usage of many prudent Towns; such if it were not the law, would be our interest & our duty. Let us then apply to the Legislature to repeal this premium paid to the rich & let them vie with each other in the punctuality of discharging their debts, their most solemn debts to the Town, debts equally important as those due to the banks, or to the United States.—

But lest principles of patriotism may not have their full effect,

the Committee proceed to recommend under the second head of improvement in the Collection of taxes.—

1st. The appointment of four assistant collectors, who shall be allowed in addition to the fees of Office the sum of Three hundred Dollars per Annum each.—

It will be perceived that the premiums paid to the Opulent and the punctual have amounted to 3200 dollars per Annum, and of course that these salaries if the premiums are abolished will still leave the Town better by the sum of two thousand dollars.—

[**456.**] 2dly. It is proposed that all the taxes shall be paid in without any exception at the end of Sixty days after the delivery of the tax bills — This it will be perceived is only Sixty days sooner than the inhabitants are now obliged to pay them, & if we deduct ten days for Notices as has been usually allowed, the loss to the Town will be fifty days only.— After the first year it will be seen that the tax will not recur at an earlier period to the citizen, as the burthen is to be born every year, and only once in each year.—

At the expiration of the Seventy days it shall be the duty of the Town Treasurer to issue his warrants; after which every man who has not paid his tax will be subjected to the payment of the fees of Collection, which will amount to nearly five per Cent. and the same, shall be notified to each inhabitant on the tax bill, and that if the same shall not be paid at the expiration of the ten days, that warrants shall issue therefore. This it is believed will be as powerful a Consideration with those who now receive the premium as the premium itself.

All classes of the community will reap an advantage from this System by the improvement of the Credit of the Town and by the consequent diminution of future taxes.

3dly It is proposed by the Committee that the Assessors should be enjoined to issue the tax bills on or before the first day of September in each year, and if any additional expence of Clerk hire shall be thereby incurred, that the same shall be paid by the Town.—

The reasons which have induced the Committee [**457**] to urge this anticipation of the taxes are, that the Season of labour is the period of profit to almost all Classes of the people; that the winter is the moment of repose in which many Citizens are obliged to Consume the fruits of their summer industry; that they can pay with more ease while they are in the receipt of money; but more especially because hundreds of labourers who are taxed, collect during the Summer the money of the Citizens of this town & in Autumn fly away with it to their own home, without Contributing towards the public burden of those who have protected and paid them.—

Lastly. The Collector shall be directed to issue his warrants for the Collecting of all taxes now in arrear without any delay or distinction.—

The Committee have given to this subject all the thought &

reflection in their power. They have had two objects in view, from which they have not Swerved.—

The one to retrieve the Credit of the Town, to diminish accumulated debt, to prevent the recurrence of such accumulation in future.—

The Second to withdraw from certain Classes of Citizens a premium for doing their duty, a reward for paying what both the law, their own sense of duty and the public interest, would have induced them to pay without.

In effecting these objects they have recurred to the old and well approved mode of Collecting the taxes by *Special Collectors.* A mode which the late Act authorizing the Town Treasurer to Collect [458] them, never intended to abolish, for that Act authorized him to appoint such Assistant Collectors, and the Committee simply recommend the enforcement of that law.—

If the joint and disinterested efforts of a Committee freely chosen from every part of the Town, representing local as well as general interest, shall be productive of any partial or intensive good they shall be happy; if not, they shall enjoy the consciousness of well meant and assiduous efforts for the promotion of the interests of the town, in whose prosperity they are individually deeply concerned.—

All which is respectfully submitted to the candid consideration of the inhabitants of this town by their Committee.—

Josiah Snelling,	Ward	N°.	1.
R. Webster,	"	"	2.
Ephraim Eliot,	"	"	3.
John Brown,	"	"	4.
William Alline,	"	"	5.
Neh^{h} Parsons,	"	"	6.
Step: Codman,	"	"	7.
John Lowell,	"	"	8.
Isaac Winslow,	"	"	9.
Joseph Tilden,	"	"	10.
I. P. Davis,	"	"	11.

The Gentlemen elected in this Ward - - - - - - - - 12 did not attend. —

Boston May 14th. 1811. —

The foregoing Report having been read & debated, it was unanimously accepted by the Town. —

on Motion of John Lowell Esq. —

Voted, that it is expedient, that some measures be adopted to lessen the debt due from the Town, and [459] to prevent as far as possible the recurrence of such a balance against the Town in future. —

Voted, That Josiah Snelling
Redford Webster Ephraim Eliot
John Brown William Alline
Neh^h Parsons Stephen Codman
John Lowell Isaac Winslow
Joseph Tilden Isaac P. Davis &
Joshua Davis Esqrs. be a Committee with full power and authority to dispose of the land on Beacon Hill, of the lot opposite to the Mall and of the land lying on the Street leading from Orange Street to the South Bridge, at public Auction at such time as they shall deem most beneficial for the Town, and upon such sale to make & execute good deeds thereof in fee Simple with warranty and that the proceeds of such Sale Shall be & the same hereby are appropriated to the liquidation & satisfaction of the debts due by the Town. —

Voted, That it is expedient to abolish the premium heretofore paid to those who pay their Taxes within certain limited periods after the delivery of the tax bills & that the Representatives of this Town in the General Court be requested to procure a repeal of any part of any law or Act which has heretofore allowed & permitted such premiums. —

Voted, That in future, it shall be the duty of the Assessors to issue the tax bills on or before the first day of September in each year, and within Sixty days thereafter it shall be the duty of the Town Treasurer to issue his Notifications to each person who shall be Assessed and whose taxes shall not have been wholly abated, and if such person shall not pay his taxes within [**460**] ten days after the receipt of Such Notification or the Service thereon upon him in the usual form, the Treasurer Shall issue his warrant for Such taxes directed to the Special Collector herein after mentioned who shall be held to Collect the Same before the return day of Such Warrant — and that the Representatives of the Town be requested to apply to the Legislature for Such amendment of the laws for the collection of taxes in this Town as may be necessary to carry the foregoing vote into effect. —

Voted, that the Town Treasurer be recommended to appoint in pursuance of the authority vested in him by law Four deputy Collectors who Shall give bond for the faithful execution of their trust — and it shall be the duty of Such Collectors to Collect and receive the Taxes committed to them to Collect, for which they Shall receive the premium or compensation from the persons named in the warrants to them committed which Constables are now entitled by law to Charge & receive, and pay over the Sums so Collected to the Town Treasurer. —

Voted, that as an inducement to the Said Collectors to be vigilant and faithful in the execution of Said trust, there be granted to them annually the Sum of twelve hundred Dollars

which Sum Shall be divided among the said Collectors in proportion to the Sum which he or they shall respectively Collect in each year. —

Voted, That the thanks of the Town be given to the Gentlemen Composing the Committee from the Several Wards for their faithful Services. —

[**461.**] The Committee appointed to Audit the Towns Accounts, have attended that Service and ask leave to report — That they have examined the Town Treasurers Accounts, and find them right cast and well vouched, that a balance remained in his hands of the Sum of Eighteen hundred and twenty Seven dollars five Cents on the first day of May instant which is carried to the Credit of the Town in his New Accounts. —

The Committee report as their opinion that it will be expedient for the Town to grant a tax of Seventy Three Thousand & five hundred Dollars to be Assessed on the inhabitants, to defray the expences of the Town the Current Year agreeable to the following estimates. —

To meet the Selectmens drafts - - - - - - - -	$50,000—
Overseers of the Poor - - - - - - - - - -	25,000—
Board of Health - - - - - - - - - - - - -	7,000—
Interest due on Notes due to Banks & individuals -	3,500—
Remains Doll^{s}. - - - - - - - - - - - -	73,500—

to be provided for. —

all which is Submitted. —

Boston May 24th 1811.

Signed

William Brown.
Stephen Codman.
Samuel Brown.

The foregoing Report was read & accepted. —

Voted, That the Sum of Seventy three thousand & five hundred Dollars, be raised by a tax to be Assessed [**462**] on the Polls & Estates of the Inhabitants of the Town, to defray the Expences of the Current year. —

Voted, That the Sum of 8484 dollars & 28 Cents now appearing on the Town Treasurers Books as due to Trustees of Neck Land, be appropriated towards the discharge of the Towns debts, and all Monies received in future to be Appropriated to the Same purpose. —

Voted, That the Petition from the Inhabitants of South Boston respecting Schooling their Children be referred to the School Committee, who are hereby requested to pay an immediate attention to the same, and to make such provision for the same, as they shall think reasonable. —

Theophilus Curtis —

was Chosen Hogreeve & Hayward in place of John Deluce resigned. —

It is ordered — and the Selectmen are hereby directed & impowered to appoint or license from time to time suitable persons to be sweepers, scrapers, & cleansers of Chimneys in this Town, and whose several Apprentices, shall wear proper badges, to be appointed by the Selectmen, & whose wages, for their work & Services in Cleansing Chimneys, the rates from time to time to be fixed & appointed by the Selectmen. —

Voted, That Hon. William Brown Stephen Codman Esq. Hon. Thomas Dawes, William Hammett & Oliver Keating Esqrs. be a Committee to consider of the various modes that may be adopted of removing the filth of Town, and to examine the places from which Wharfes may be built [**463**] for that purpose, and that they have power to purchase one or more suitable places if that should be found necessary, & report their doings to the Board of Health & Selectmen.

Voted, that the Sum of Seven hundred and fifty Dollars, be allowed & paid unto Hon. Thomas Dawes Esq. for his Salary as Judge of the Municipal Court the present year.

Voted, that the Sum of fifteen hundred Dollars be allowed & paid unto William Smith Esq. as Treasurer and Collector of Taxes the present year he to pay his Clerk, Assistant, Office hire, and all other expence of Office.—

Voted, That the Sum of One Thousand Dollars be allowed & paid unto Thomas Clark for his Salary as Town Clerk the year ensuing.

Voted, that the Sum of Five hundred Dollars be allowed & paid unto the Town Advocate for his Salary the year ensuing, he to account with the Town for all fees received by him. —

Voted, that the thanks of the Town be given to the Moderator.—

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[**464.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 4th Day of July A.D. 1811. 9 O'Clock A.M. —

Thomas Clark

was Chosen Moderator. —

The Committee appointed the last year to make choice of a Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the Anniversary of Independence — Reported —

That they had Chosen James Savage Esq. who has accepted of the Appointment. —

Adjourned to the Old South Church — 12 O'Clock when

AN ORATION

was delivered by James Savage Esq. to commemorate the Independence of the United States of America. —

Voted, That the Selectmen be, and hereby are appointed a Committee to wait on James Savage Esq. in the name of the Town, and thank him for the elegant and spirited Oration, this day delivered by him at the request of the Town, upon the anniversary of American Independence in which were considered the feelings, manners, and principles, which produced the great national event; and to request of him a copy for the press. —

Voted, That the Gentlemen be, and hereby are appointed a Committee, to apply to some able learned Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the 4th day of July 1812 — That day being the anniversary of the Independence of the [**465**] United States of America, wherein the Orator is to consider the feelings, manners, and principles which led to the great National Event; as well as the important & happy effects, whether General or Domestic, which have already, or will forever flow from that Auspicious Epoch.—

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified & legally warned in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 11th Day of November A. D. 1811 — 10, O'Clock A. M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

Charles Bulfinch Esq. chosen Moderator.

This Meeting was called in conformity to a Law of this Commonwealth, Regulating the Selection of Grand, Traverse & petit Jurors. —

The Law of March 12th. 1808. & the Law respecting Engine Men passed November 17th. 1808, being read.— it was Voted. that it is expedient to excuse all Engine Men from serving as Jurors. —

The Selectmen laid before the Town the names of two lists of Persons they had selected, [**466**] one to serve as Grand & Traverse Jurors at the Supreme Judicial Court, & the other to serve as Petit Jurors at the Court of Common Pleas. —

The foregoing Report being considered — it was moved & Voted. That the Town confirm the doings of the Selectmen. —

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

1812.

[**467.**] At a Meeting of the male Citizens of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public Town Meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the ninth day of March A D. 1812 — 10 O'Clock A.M. and by adjournment at 3 O'Clock P.M. on the same day — Prayer by the Revd. Mr. Thacher.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read —

Stephen Codman Esq.
chosen Moderator. —

Laws, & Extracts of Laws — read. —

Thomas Clark
was chosen Town Clerk for the year ensuing — the Oath of Office was administered to him by Stephen Codman Esq.

Charles Bulfinch	Francis Wright
Ebenezer Oliver	Joseph Foster
Jonathan Hunnewell	Nathan Webb
John May	Benjamin Weld and

Joseph Lovering Esquires
were chosen Selectmen for the year ensuing. —

Voted unanimously, That the Thanks of the Town be given to William Porter Esq. for his faithful services as one of the Selectmen for fourteen years past.

[468.] Voted, That the choice of County and Town Treasurers and Collector be postponed to an adjournment of this Meeting; and that a Committee be chosen to examine the state of the Town Treasury & to request of the Court of the General Sessions of the peace for the County of Suffolk a statement of the affairs of the County Treasury — and to consider the expediency of uniting the office of County & Town Treasurer in the same person and to report at an Adjournment.

The following Gentlemen were chosen a Committee in consequence of the foregoing vote — viz.

Josiah Snelling,	Redford Webster,
Ephraim Elliot,	John Brown,
William Alline,	Nehemiah Parsons,
Stephen Codman	John Lowell,
Isaac Winslow,	Joseph Tilden, &
Isaac P. Davis	Joshua Davis Esqs.

Voted, That the Committee Report on the second Monday of April next, being the thirteenth day of said Month.

Voted, That the Committee be requested to have their report printed and distributed for the information of the Inhabitants, one week at least before the said second Monday in April next. —

	William Smith	Joseph Coolidge Junr.
	William Phillips	Joseph Richards
	Redford Webster	Bryant P. Tilden
[469.]	Thomas Perkins	William Mackay
	Samuel Snelling	Ephraim Elliot and
	Oziah Goodwin	Jonathan Phillips Esquires,

were chosen Overseers of the Poor.

	Thomas Melvill	Bryant P. Tilden
	Andrew Cunningham	Nathan Webb
	John Winslow	Geo. Blanchard
	Stephen Codman	Saml. M. Thayer
	John Bray	Joseph Tilden
	Jon^{a}. Hunnewell	Thomas Page
	Danl. Messinger	Joseph Austin
	William Sullivan	[470.] Benj^{a}. Rich
	Benjamin Smith	Joseph Lovering
	Nathl. Curtiss	Francis J. Oliver
	Edward Cruft	Gidney King and
	James Phillips	John D. Williams Esqrs.

were chosen Firewards.—

Voted, That the thanks of the Town be given to Joseph May, Joseph Head, Benjamin Coates, and Ignatius Sargent Esqrs, for their faithful services as Firewards for many years past.—

Voted, That in addition to the Selectmen twelve persons shall now be chosen a School Committee; and the votes being collected it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen, viz. Rev^{d}. W. E. Channing Rev^{d}. Joseph S. Buckminster, Rev^{d}. Ch^{s}. Lowell,

Dr. Aaron Dexter,
Arnold Welles Esq.,
David Greene. Esq,
John Heard Esq,
and Charles Davis Esq.

Dr. Thos. Welsh
W^{m}. Smith Esq.
John Phillips Esq.
William Prescott Esq.

Voted, That the above named Gentlemen who conjunctly with the Selectmen, are termed the School Committee, be and hereby are directed to carry the system of Education adopted by the Town into operation; and that said Committee be also authorised & empower'd conjunctly to manage and regulate the Government of the Schools: and to execute all the powers relative to the Schools & [**471**] School Masters which the Selectmen or such Committees as are authorised by the Laws of the Commonwealth or by votes of the town to exercise.—

Messrs. Benjamin White
John Cogswell
W^{m}. Clouston
W^{m}. Ellison
Nathl. Bradlee Ju^{r}.
Noah Doggett
Brad^{k}. Loring
Thos. Christie
William Green
Eleazer Homer

Messrs. Joseph Stodder
Allen Bowker
W^{m}. Ellison Junr.
Nathl. Glover
John Howe Junr.
Rich^{d}. Thayer
Ed. J. Robbins
Henry Blake
Joseph Tucker
Moses Eayres Junr.

were chosen Surveyors of Boards & other Lumber.—

Messrs. Henry Purkett
Nathl. Howe
John Smith &
James Eunson,
were chosen Cullers of Hoops and Staves.—

Messrs. Thomas Barbour
Nathl. Howe
Benj Clark
Gershom Spear
James Eunson

Messrs. Charles Pook
John Bannister
John Smith
Saml. Smith
Thos. Lewis and
William Lovis

were chosen Cullers of Dry Fish.

Messrs. Benj^{a}. White
William Ellison and
Nathl. Bradlee Junr.
were chosen Fence Viewers.—

[**472.**] Messrs. Joseph Cobbett Messrs. Rufus Harrington and
John Deluce Israel Mead Junr.
were chosen Hogreeves.

Messrs. Joseph Cobbett Messrs. Rufus Harrington and
John Deluce, (resign'd) Israel Mead
were chosen Haywards.

Samuel Emmons and
James Phillips Esqrs.,
were chosen Surveyors of Hemp.

Edward Tuckerman and
Josiah Snelling Esqrs.
were chosen Surveyors of Wheat.—

Messrs. John Wells, and
Richard Austin
were chosen Assay Masters.—

The Selectmen were chosen Surveyors of High Way.

Messrs. Francis James,
Michael Homer, and
Samuel Sprague —
were chosen Inspectors of Lime.—

Voted, That Samuel Brown, W^{m}. Brown, & Stephen Codman Esqrs. be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee to audit the accounts of the Town Treasurer, and also those of the Overseers of the Poor, & the Board of Health. And said Committee are directed to report the sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present year.—

Voted, That the consideration of all money matters [**473**] be referred to the next May Meeting.—

Adjourned to Monday the 13th day of April next.
10 o'Clock A.M.—

At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of twenty one years of age and upwards qualified as the Constitution prescribes & legally warned, in public Town Meeting assembled, at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 6th day of April A.D. 1812. 9 O'Clock A.M.—

Prayer by the Rev^{d}. Dr. Lathrop.—

Warrant for calling the Meeting read.—

Paragraphs of the Constitution or Frame of Government, rela-

tive to the choice of Governour, Lieutenant Governour, and Senators, read —

also the Law for new districting the Commonwealth, passed the present year, read.—

It was then declared by the Selectmen, that no Vote should be received but such as are unfolded. That the Poll shall be closed at half past 2 O'Clock P.M. and that the Bells begin tolling at 2 O'Clock and continue for half an hour.—

Persons Voted for as Governor with the number of Votes for each person — viz —

His Excy. Elbridge Gerry - - - - - - - - 1833.
Hon Caleb Strong - - - - - - - - - - - 3830.
Wm Gray 1. Wm Heath 1.
J Q Adams 1. S ml. Dexter 1.
Theodore Sedgwick 1. Francis Wilby 1.

[474.] Persons Voted for as Lieutenant Governor, with the number of votes for each person — viz.

Hon William Phillips - - - - - - - - - - 3836.
Hon William King - - - - - - - - - - - 1820.
Joseph B. Varnum 1. Wm Gray 1.
Wm Heath 1. H. G. Otis 1. Joseph Storey 1.
Aaron Paine 1. Jabez Whiting 1. Ez. A. Bourne 1.

Persons Voted for as Senators for the district of Suffolk, with the number of votes for each person, viz.—

Honl. H. G. Otis - - - - - - - - - - - 3828
Honl. John Phillips - - - - - - - - - - 3831
Honl. John Welles - - - - - - - - - - 3832
Honl. Peter C Brooks - - - - - - - - - 3829
Honl. Israel Thorndike - - - - - - - - 3820
Honl. David Tilden - - - - - - - - - 1826
Saml. Brown Esq. - - - - - - - - - 1825
Russell Sturgis Esq. - - - - - - - - 1825
William Little Esq. - - - - - - - - 1818
Mr. Caleb Bingham - - - - - - - - - - 1823
Wm. Sullivan 1. Wm. Prescott 1. S. H. Walley 1.
Geo. Sullivan 1. Henry Cutter 1.
David Townsend 2. David S. Eaton 1.
Jared Austin 1. C. P. Sumner 1.
Jona. Harris 1. Alexr. Townsend 1.
Wm. Whitwell Junr. 1. Geo. Bond 1.
Richd. Sullivan 1. Jona. Wild Junr. 1.

Attested Copies of return of the persons voted for as Governor, Lieut. Governor and Senators for the district of Suffolk sealed up

in open Town Meeting after the vote had been declared, [**475**] to be transmitted to the Secretary of the Commonwealth as prescribed by the Law, and directed as follows viz. —

To Benjamin Homans Esq.
Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Votes of the Town of Boston for Governor and Lieutenant Governor & Five Senators for the district of Suffolk, sealed up in open Town Meeting. —

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

At a meeting of the Male Citizens of the Town of Boston on Monday the 13th. day of April A.D. 1812. Held by adjournment from Monday the ninth day of March last.

The Committee appointed by the Town at their meeting on the ninth day of March last, to examine the state of the Town Treasury and the affairs of the County Treasury, have attended to the duties assigned them, and beg leave to report.

That the approbation of the Inhabitants of the town expressed towards the persons who formed the Committee on the finances of the Town the last year, [**476**] not only by the adoption of all the measures, which that Committee recommended, but also by the reelection of the same individuals for the same duties the present year, affords to them the highest satisfaction, and has induced them to persevere in their exertions to restore the financial affairs of the Town to a state of prosperity and order. —

It will be seen by a recurrence to the Report of the Committee of the last year, that the principal, if not the only cause of the derangements of the Towns prudential concerns, was the imperfect manner in which the past taxes had been collected. It will be perceived that the Town have always voted sufficient sums to meet all the public exigences, if the amount voted had been in all cases or could have been promptly collected. —

But from some imperfection in the system of collection it had unfortunately happened, that while the Town was paying interest for a sum not less than 50,000 Dollars, and the County, which may be considered almost in the same light as the Town, was indebted to individuals or the Banks nearly to the same amount, there was due from individuals to the Town on account of past taxes, the enormous sum of 109,000 dollars; and what aggravated this evil in the minds of your Committee, the Town was found to pay an usurious douceur to its debtors, not for the anticipation of their taxes, but for the [**477**] performance of their duty, while it could demand no interest from those who were delinquent in the payment of their taxes to the Town.

The Committee having ascertained to their satisfaction that the above mentioned defect in the collection of the taxes was the prolific cause of the embarassment of the Towns affairs, recommended a remedy which they flattered themselves would be effectual.

If the remedy had failed, as it was a new experiment in a case of some difficulty and delicacy, you Committee trust that such failure would not, by a liberal & discerning people, have been attributed to them.

If on the other hand, it shall appear to have been successful beyond even the hopes and promises of your Committee, they are not disposed to assume to themselves any merit from a measure which appeared to them to be pointed out by the simplest and most ordinary dictates of prudence and policy.

Your Committee cannot give to their fellow-citizens more satisfactory means of judging of the effects of the system recently adopted than by reporting to them the amount of taxes laid for the five years last ensuing, and the amount collected on each tax prior to the 1st. of March in each year.

	Amount of tax 1807 - - - - - - - -	134,231.83
	Amount paid 1st March 1808 - - - -	60,626.79
	Amount unpaid on 1st. March 1808	$73,605. 4
[478.]	Tax for 1808 - - - - - - - - - - -	102,533.33
	Amount paid to March 1st. 1809 - - -	51,722.83
	due March 1st 1809 - - - - -	50,760.50
	Tax for 1809 - - - - - - - - - - -	130,219.98
	Amount paid March 1st 1810 - - - -	60,267.51
	due March 1st. 1810 - - - -	69,952.47
	Tax for 1810 - - - - - - - - - - -	140,306.45
	Amount paid to 1st March 1811 - - -	68,848.86
	due 1 March 1811 - - - - -	71,457.59
	Tax for 1811 (since new system)	135,792.61
	Amount paid to 1st March 1812 - - -	116,184.79
	Due March 1st. 1812 - - - -	$19,607.82

Thus it will be perceived, that the amount paid on the tax of the last year, (without an usurious premium to the debtors of the Town) is nearly twice as great as the average paid in the same period, during the four years next preceding, and the amount due to the town on account of the last years tax is not more than one third part as great as that of former years.

The importance of this last idea will be manifest to every man who reflects that a very large proportion of public and private debts, are lost by delay; that the citizen who will not, or who pretends that he cannot pay his tax during the year in which it is assessed, is very little likely to pay it either cheerfully or easily when another is added to it.

The statement of the Town Treasurer, which the Committee will next exhibit, affords a most salutary lesson [**479**] on this subject. It is a commentary on their report, which leaves but little argument; for while 116,000 Dollars out of 135,000 have been collected on the last years tax, the town Treasurer does not acknowledge the Receipt of more than 24,000 dollars during the past year, out of the large sum of 109,000 due for taxes, laid & assessed preceding the past year. Your Committee forbear to press any further remarks on this subject, for the facts themselves are too plain and too forcible to require any illustration. The Committee have received from Town Treasurer, the following statement of the towns affairs, on the first of March last.

Received on outstanding taxes - - - - - -		24037.94
D°. on Rents - - - - - - - - - -		6317.46
D°. on Neck Lands - - - - - - - -		990. 2
D°. on Military fines - - - - - - - -		188.—
D°. on Land on Common street &c - -		3000.—
D°. on tax for 1811 - - - - - - - -		116184.79
		$150,718.21
Cash received from State, for States Poor - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	6225.94	
This amount transferred on Selectmens draft to Town Treasury by a vote of the Town on account of trust of Neck land - - - - - -	8484.28	
Rec[d]. of Francis Wright Esq. for an Engine - - - - - - - - - - -	75.	
Selectmens draft in favor of the New England Insurance office, awarded for widening Ex[change] lane, paid by a note on Interest by order of the Selectmen - - - - - - - - -	5500.	
	———	20285.22
		Doll[s]. 171,003.43
[**480.**] Due from Brazer on Award	5000.	
D° Notes for land sold - -	14015.	
Selectmens drafts from May 1st 1811 to Feb[y]. 1812 - - - - - - - -	48312.09	
D°. on D°. May 1811 - - - - - -	22037.10	
	70349.19	
Amount paid thereon - - - - - - -	64536.41	
	———	5812.78

Overseers drafts balance due May 1st. 1811 - - - - - - - - - -	10287.83	
Do. drawn from May 1st. 1811 to Feby. 1812 - - - - - - - - -	17559. 3	
	27846.86	
Amount paid - - - - - - -	25467.82	
		2379.4
Board of Health		
Balance to May 1811 - - - - - -	317.95	
Drafts to Feby. 1812 - - - - - -	5310.38	
	$5628.33	
Amount paid to March 1st. 1812 -	5404.38	
		223.95
Notes payable May 1st. 1811 - - -	50317.22	
Note to New England Insurance office - - - - - - - -	5500.	
	55817.22	
Amount paid to March 1st. 1812 - -	20496.30	
Amount due	55320.92	
Amount paid County of Suffolk - - - - - - -		32541.50
Amount paid State Treasurer - - - - - - - -		20081.
Amount due to the County of Suffolk	61,214	
Amount due to the State - - - - -	17,853	
Boston 4th April 1812 William Smith		
Received - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		171003.43
Paid - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		168527.41
Balance on hand to New Account - - - - -		$.2376.02

From the above Statement it appears that although the tax of last year has been collected with an unexampled degree of promptitude, and although the [481] important amount of 168,000 Dollars have been paid by the Town Treasurer within ten months of the past year, yet that the Town is still greatly in arrears, owing as your Committee conceive, to the great ballance still uncollected of the past taxes, amounting in the whole to a sum exceeding one hundred thousand dollars.

Before your Committee proceed to report on the affairs of the County, they would beg leave to state, that they apprehend that further and more energetic measures should be adopted by the Town Treasurer for the collection of the arrearages of past taxes, and that although great effects have been already produced by the prompt measures adopted with regard to the taxes of the last year, yet they apprehend that the votes of the Town on that

subject have not been fully complied with, otherwise there would not have been so considerable a sum still due on the last years tax. The Committee are of opinion, that a strict and firm execution of the votes and intention of the Town ought not to leave on the first of March one dollar uncollected of the past years tax. If there are, as perhaps there may be, individuals, overtaxed, or who are unable to pay, the abatements ought to be made before March so that the current years tax should in every instance be settled before the Meeting in that month, either by payment or by abatements, where the parties are either unable to pay or have been overcharged.

No individual, and certainly no corporation, can expect to have their affairs in a regular and well ordered state, while they continue to suffer the debts due to them to accumulate, at the same time that their expenditures are uniform, and exceed the amount actually collected.

[482.] The Committee further report, that in pursuance of the other branch of their commission they made application to the Hon[1]. the Justices of the County Court for permission to investigate the affairs of the County; and that honourable Court, with great readiness and civility was pleased to authorize four members of the Towns Committee to call the County Treasurer to a settlement, and to investigate fully the state of the financial affairs of the County. The Gentlemen thus authorized immediately waited on the County Treasurer; but they regret to state, that they found his state of health so feeble as to render it absolutely impracticable for him to settle his accounts, or to afford them the information desired by the Town. — They feel it however incumbent on them in justice to a respectable citizen to state, that the County Treasurer claims a balance against the Town, and from the general course of the county concerns, the small sums paid over to him in comparison with the numerous demands upon him in his said capacity, as well as from other circumstances, your Committee have reason to believe that he would be able to liquidate his accounts with reputation to himself, if the state of his health would permit.

In order however, to enable the town to form a tolerably correct idea of the state of the affairs of the County, your Committee subjoin a statement of the situation of the County debts and credits furnished to them by one of the Justices of the Hon[1]. County Court who has been long and intimately acquainted with its concerns, and who has generally been authorized to settle the accounts of the County Treasurer.—

[483.] Estimate of Debts due from the County of Suffolk.—

To the Union Bank - - - - - -	14100	
To the Boston Bank - - - - - -	12000	
To the Massachusetts Bank - - - -	12000	
	———	38100.—

To several Justices of the peace - - - - - -		1200.—
To the Sheriff on sundry accounts - - - - -		1000.
To Dep^{y} Sherifs, Constables & Goaler - - - -		500.
To Attorney General and Solicitor & county attorney - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		300.
To the Coroners - - - - - - - - - - - - -		100.—
To the Judge of Probate - - - - - - - - -		140.
To the Physician of the Goal - - - - - - - -		120.
To Witnesses - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		500.
To Jurors - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		1000.
To Stationers & Binders - - - - - - - - - -		152.
To Mechanics - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		250.
To Tudor for rent - - - - - - - - - - - -		138.
For want of documents some debts omitted say -		500.
		$44000.
New Court house to complete, viz		
Jeremiah Gardner on contract - - -	12000	
D^{o}. his extra Bills - - - - - - -	2500	
	14500.—	
paid him - - - - - -	8300.—	
		6200.
Josiah Bemis all his Bills - - - -	33000.	
paid him - - - - - -	22500.	
		10500.—
Wall for Iron doors windows and railing - - - - - - - - - - -	1500.—	
Painting & Glazing - - - - - - -	1000.	
Hardware bills - - - - - - - - -	500.	
Plastering and other Masons work to finish - - - - - - - - - - -	800.	
Slates & Slating Roof - - - - - -	900.	
Glass - - - - - - - - - - - -	400.	
John Lowell, for land bought of him & Freeman - - - - - - - - - -	5330	
	10430	60700.
[**484.**] Amount brought up - -	10430	60700.—
Ezekiel Prices heirs for land unliquidated, say - - - - - - - - - -	1600.	
Extra work fitting up the Offices - -	270	
		12300.
		$73000.—

Submitted by

William Donnison Committee

Decr. 31st. 1811.—

County of Suffolk — Statement of taxes for 1810 & 1811.— whole amount of the County tax for 1810.

Boston's part of 1810 tax is - - -	40489.12	
Chelsea's part of 1810 tax is - -	510.88	
		$41,000.—
Whole amount of County tax for 1811		
Boston's part of 1811 tax is - - -	44439.28	
Chelsea's part of 1811 tax is - -	560.72	
		$45000.—
Balance of tax for 1810 unpaid, receivable from Town of Boston - -	22993.83	
whole of Boston's tax for 1811 unpaid	44439.28	
		67433.11
Chelsea's part of County tax for 1811 unpaid - - - - - - - -		560.72
Decr. 31. 1811. Outstanding		$67,993.83

From this statement it will appear, that whenever the Town Treasurer shall have paid over to the County Treasurer the sums which have been actually assessed for County expences, and a great part of which has been received, a very small ballance only will be due from the County to individuals, or to the Banks. It is true that from this statement it would seem that the County is largely indebted to the Banks, and to Private persons; but it will be seen that as soon as the Town Treasurer shall have discharged the proportion of taxes due to the County, and assessed by the Town, the amounts due by the County will be very insignificant: and it is also necessary to remark that one [485] of the largest sums in which the Town stands indebted is that which it owes to the County, and it would be therefore erroneous to consider the whole debt due from the Town, and the debt due from the County as distinct sums, because as soon as the County Treasurer shall receive from the Town the amount due to the County, he will be enabled to discharge nearly the whole amount in which the County stands indebted. — These remarks have been more detailed because an opinion has prevailed that the affairs of the County were in a deranged & embarrassed state, and that if examined they would show, that the Town which nearly constitutes the County, is much more largely indebted than the accounts of the Town Treasurer lead us to suppose: This idea is proved to be erroneous, and the amount due from the Town, it will be seen, includes nearly the whole of the County debt. Considerable interest has been excited by the erection of the New Court House; an edifice called for by every consideration of prudence and policy. It has been supposed that the erection of this building would involve the Town and county in enormous expences. — Your Committee have investigated that subject, and after procuring the estimate of Judge Donnison, who in his capacity of Judge, both of the Court of Common Pleas, and of the County Court, has been more intimately acquainted with the cost of this edifice than any other man, as well as from the statement of the

agent for the erection of the Court House, your Committee find that the whole cost of that building will not exceed sixty eight thousand dollars. — It is also an agreeable circumstance that the Committee are able to add, that nearly the whole of this sum has been already assessed [486] and raised during the last three years, in so moderate and judicious a manner, that it has not appeared materially to increase the ordinary aggregate of the Towns taxes. — when therefore the outstanding taxes shall have been collected, and their due proportion paid over to the County, we shall have the satisfaction to have nearly discharged the bills for an edifice highly ornamental to the Town, important to the convenience of the Courts, witnesses and Jurors, and absolutely essential to the safe preservation of the public records. With respect to the expediency of uniting the two offices of County & Town Treasurer in one person, the Committee report, that as the law now stands, this would be impracticable to effect by any vote of the Town. The only effect of such a vote would be a recommendation to the citizens to unite their suffrages in the same person, and as the choice is by ballot, it will be perceived that such a recommendation might have but little effect on the friends of candidates for said offices. But your Committee are further of opinion, that during the present year it would be inexpedient so to unite the two offices. —

The settlement of the Accounts of the present Treasurer, and the efficacious measures which ought to be taken by the new Treasurer, to bring about a system of order in the County affairs, would for the current year fully occupy an able, intelligent, well informed accomptant, without permitting him to attend to the united duties of Town Treasurer & Collector.

Your Committee would, however, recommend that the Town should furnish an office to the County Treasurer, adjacent to that of the Treasurer of the Town, and that the County Court be respectfully requested to enjoin on the County Treasurer to transact all his official business in [487] said apartments. One object, among many others, to be attained by such arrangement, is, that persons might not get orders from the County Treasurer for services rendered to the County while they stood indebted to the Town for taxes or otherwise.

Your Committee further report, that it is highly expedient, that the Town Treasurer & Collector should regularly at least once in every week, pay over to the County Treasurer the proportion due to the County of the amount received for taxes during such week. We should then never witness the extraordinary fact of the Towns being indebted to the County nearly 60,000 Dollars. The County would not be obliged to procure all its work done at a disadvantageous rate, because payable only in orders for taxes; and one step at least would be taken towards the restoration of order and regularity, without which no true system of economy can exist.—

Your Committee conclude, by recommending a new injunction on the Town Treasurer, to cause all the back taxes to be collected, where the assessors shall not abate them, and a literal

compliance with the vote of last spring as to all taxes which may be hereafter assessed.—

It ought to be understood, that the taxes should be paid with the same promptitude as the duties at the Custom house, and the moment any indulgence is introduced, an indulgence as injurious to the individual as to the Town, the floodgates of disorder are thrown open, and the affairs of the Town will continue to be in a state of derangement ill suited either to its reputation or its interests.

Josiah Snelling N°. 1.
R Webster N°. 2.
Ephraim Elliot N°. 3.
John Brown N°. 4.
Wm. Alline N°. 5.
Nehh. Parsons N°. 6.
Stephen Codman N°. 7.
Jn°. Lowell N°. 8.
Isaac Winslow N°. 9.
Joseph Tilden, N°. 10.
J. P. Davis N°. 11.
Joshua Davis N°. 12.

April 6th. 1812.

[488.] The foregoing Report was read and accepted by the Town.—

The Town voted to proceed to the choice of County Treasurer, which vote was reconsidered & three O'Clock PM was assigned, afterwards it was Voted to postpone the Choice of County Treasurer to Friday next 10 o'Clock

Adjourned to Friday next 17th. Instant.

Friday April 17th. 1812.—

The Town met according to adjournment.

Votes for a County Treasurer were received, sorted and counted by the Moderator & Town Clerk, when it appeared that,

		John Winslow Esq. had - -	852	Votes
		Thomas Badger Esq. - - -	76	"
Jos. Foster Esq.	27.	John Boyle 22. - - -	49	"
Samuel Brewer	7.	Nathl. Noyes 6. - -	13	"
Stepn. Codman Esq.	5.	Caleb Bingham 2. - -	7	"
James Scott - - -	2.	Benj Homans 2. - -	4	"
Seth Kent - - - -	1.	David Tilden Esq. 1. -	2	"
William Smith - - -	1.	Josiah Bachelder 1. -	2	"
Andrew Sigourney -	1.	Revd. J S J Gardiner 1.	2	"
Skinner the younger	- - - - - - - - - - -		1	"
		whole number - - - - - -	1008	Votes

William Smith Esq. — was chosen Town Treasurer & Collector for the year ensuing.

A memorial was received from William Smith Esq., praying that the Town would allow him an assistant Clerk, for reasons set forth in his memorial. The same being read it was moved and Voted,

That the application of the Town Treasurer for the allowance of a Clerk be referred for consideration, to the Committee chosen in March to examine the state of the Town and County Treasury, & that they report at the May Meeting.—

Voted, That the same Committee be desired to examine [**489**] particularly the state of the outstanding taxes; to consider what instructions are necessary for the assessors relative to abatements; and in conjunction with the auditors of accounts to consider what amount of tax is necessary and expedient for the present year & report at the next May Meeting.

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be given to Stephen Codman Esq. for his services as Moderator.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.—

At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of twenty one years of age & upwards, qualified as the Constitution prescribes at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 14th. day of May A.D. 1812. 9 O'Clock A.M.—

Prayer by the Revd. Dr. Elliot.—

Warrant for calling the Meeting.—read.—

Paragraphs of the Constitution or Frame of Government, which relate to the choice of Representatives read —

The return of the assistant assessors signifying that the Major & Minor Polls of this Town for the present year were 10,157. being also read — The Inhabitants were directed by the Selectmen, to bring in their Votes for Representatives not exceeding forty five. — The Poll to be closed at half past 1. O Clock. —

After the Poll was closed, the Selectmen proceeded to count & sort the votes, when it appeared that the following Gentlemen were Elected Representatives for the year ensuing — viz,

William Smith Esq.	Samuel Cobb Esq.
William Brown Esq.	Jonathan Hunnewell Esq.
Benjamin Russell Esq.	Charles Davis Esq.

Benjamin Whitman Esq.
William Hammatt Esq.
Mr. Isaac P. Davis
Mr. Ephraim Thayer
Benj[a]. Weld Esq.
[490.] Mr. Nathan Webb
George G. Lee Esq.
John May Esq.
George Blanchard Esq.
Mr. Richard Faxon
Mr. John D. Howard
Mr. Lynde Walter
Mr. Jonathan Whitney
Alexander Townsend Esq.
James Savage Esq.
Henry Sargent Esq.
Mr. William Harris
Mr. Andrew Sigourney
Mr. Thomas Barry
James Robinson Esq.
Mr. John Parker
William H. Sumner Esq.
Mr. Josiah Knapp
Mr. Oliver Keating
Daniel Messenger Esq.
Mr. William Porter
Sam[l]. M. Thayer Esq.
Nath[l]. Curtis Esq.
Mr. Samuel Dunn
Mr. Thacher Goddard
Mr. Jonathan Loring
Sam[l]. J. Prescott Esq.
Lemuel Shaw Esq.
Charles Jackson Esq.
Joseph Tilden Esq.
Mr. Barzillia Homes
Mr. Joseph Pierce
Mr. Joshua Ellis

Declaration of the choice was then made and the Meeting was Dissolved.

At a Meeting of the male citizens of the town of Boston duly qualified & legally warned in public Town Meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 20th day of May A.D. 1812. 10 oClock A.M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read —

Hon[l]. John Phillips Esq.
chosen Moderator. —

The Committee appointed to audit the accounts of the Town, have attended that service and ask leave to report; That they have examined the Town Treasurer's Accounts, and have found them well vouched & right cast, that a balance remained in his hands on the first instant, of Four thousand three hundred & ninety two dollars and sixty one cents, which is carried to the credit of the Town in his new account. — The Committee report as their opinion, that it will be expedient for the Town to grant a tax of Seventy five thousand dollars, to be assessed on the Inhabitants, to defray the expences [491] of the Town for the current year, agreeably to the annexed estimate. And the Committee presume altho fifteen hundred dollars more is proposed to be assessed the present year, than was assessed the last year, that the tax will be less felt by the Inhabitants, as the County tax will be much less the present than it was the last year.

To meet Selectmens drafts - - - - - -	$55000.—
Overseers of the Poor - - - - - -	23000.
Board of Health - - - - - - - - -	7000.
	85000
Deduct for Rents - - - - - - - -	10000
	$75000

All which is Submitted

Sam[l]. Brown
W[m]. Brown
Boston May 19th. 1812. — Step[h]. Codman

The foregoing Report was read and accepted by the Town. —

Voted that the sum of Seventy five Thousand Dollars be raised by a tax to be assessed on the Polls & Estates of the Inhabitants of this Town to defray the expences of the current year. —

The Committee appointed by the Town on the 17th. day of April last, to make certain enquiries and investigations relative to the allowance to be made to the Town Treasurer, for an Assistant, and also the state of the taxes outstanding and other subjects mentioned in the vote of the Town — beg leave to Report. —

That as it respects the petition of the Town Treasurer & Collector, for an Assistant, or Clerk in his office to be furnished at the expence of the Town — The Committee beg leave to state — That by conversing with Mr. Smith (the [492] present Treasurer & Collector) it appears that the accumulation of *past taxes* and the necessity of a prompt and effectual Collection of them — has added very much to the ordinary business of the office. And as a large amount of taxes is yet outstanding which may, and probably will not be collected for several months — and as the Committee think it reasonable that the Treasurer and Collector should be furnished with an assistant at the Towns expence — to aid him in the collection of back taxes they therefore beg leave to recommend the Town to allow Mr. Smith the sum of six hundred dollars for the Salary of an assistant with suitable qualifications to be appointed by him for this year only. and they beg it to be distinctly understood that this is in consideration of the extra trouble arising from the collection of past taxes at present in arrears. owing to the non collection of them in past years — and the whole of which they hope will be disposed of the ensuing year either by payment or abatement. The Committee find further from Mr. Smith that the Mass of taxes have been collected by Three Deputy Collectors (instead of Four as originally allowed by the Town) and that he has divided the grant of Twelve hundred Dollars (originally made by the Town as the

compensation to Four Collectors) amongst the Three — this allowance is considerably increased by the charges of warrants fifty cents each — summonses Twenty cents each — and a poundage on collection of Four Per Cent and it is supposed by Mr. Smith, that three active & attentive persons could as effectually collect the taxes as Four and that the Salary three hundred dollars each with those perquisites would be a sufficient emolument.

The Committee therefore do recommend that the sum fifteen hundred dollars Per annum be granted to [**493**] Mr. Smith for the Salary of Deputy Collectors and assistant Clerk — instead of twelve hundred Dollars granted the last year.— The Committee further report, that doubts having arisen on that part of their authority which relates to instructions to the assessors for the abatement of taxes assessed prior to the year 1811 they requested the opinion of counsel on the question of the existing powers of the permanent Assssors, but not having received that opinion, the Committee recommend that for the present, and untill the further order of the Town, the permanent assessor should proceed in making abatements of taxes, as heretofore, with this exception however, that no person shall be allowed any abatement for such portion of the taxes assessed upon him for any real estate of which he was the owner, as were assessed upon the real estate owned by such person.— The Committee further report, that in conjunction with the auditors of the Towns accounts, they have examined the sum necessary to be raised for the ensuing year, and agree with them in recommending to the Town to raise the sum of Seventy five thousand dollars for the Towns current expences for the ensuing year.—

In behalf of the Committee,

Per Order, Joseph Tilden, Secretary.—

Boston 19th May 1812.—

The foregoing Report was Read — & accepted by the Town.—

On the application of the Overseers of the Poor It was moved and voted, that they be authorized to use control and manage the whole of the Alms house Estate in such manner as they may judge most useful to the purposes of that establishment, and that a major part of them have liberty to lease any part of the land for a term of years [**494**] on such conditions as they may think for the interest of the Town, for the purpose of erecting a hospital, maniac, workhouse or other buildings for charitable purposes, and to make and execute all such Deeds as may be necessary.

Voted, That the School Committee be empowered to take immediate measures for the removal or the Center Reading & Writing School house from the front of the New Court house: and that for this purpose they be authorized and empowered to enlarge or rebuild the Latin School house in such a manner as to accommodate the reading, writing & Latin Schools.

Voted, that the Selectmen be authorised and empowered to appropriate for an open passage way to the New Court house, the whole, or such portion as they shall consider most eligible, of the land now under and appertaining to the School house in School street. —

Voted, That if the above Committee shall not consider it necessary to appropriate the whole of said land for the passage way above mentioned; that the Selectmen shall be empowered to sell the remainder of such land, and also a piece of land lying on the North boundary of Beacon hill & fronting on Derne street to reimburse in part the expence of enlarging or building the Latin School house.

Voted, That the sum of Two hundred Dollars be appropriated towards maintaining a School for African children, under the direction of the School Committee.

Voted, That the sum of Seven hundred & fifty dollars, be allowed and paid unto Hon[l]. Thomas Dawes Esq. for his Salary as Judge of the Municipal Court the present year.

Voted, That the sum of Fifteen hundred Dollars be allowed & paid unto William Smith Esq. as Treasurer & Collector of taxes the present year.

[**495.**] Voted, That the sum of one thousand Dollars be allowed and paid unto Thomas Clark for his salary as Town Clerk the present year.

Voted, that the sum of Eight hundred & sixteen Dollars be allowed and paid unto each of the three Assessors for their services in that office the year ensuing.

Theophilus Curtis chosen Hogreave & Hayward, in place of John Deluce resigned.

Voted, That the thanks of the Town be given to the Hon[l]. John Phillips Esq. for his services as Moderator at this Meeting.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

At a Meeting of the male Citizens of the Town of Boston qualified as the law directs, at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 11th. day of June A.D. 1812 10 O'Clock A.M. —

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read —

Hon[o]. Thomas Dawes Esq. was chosen Moderator.

Hon[l]. Daniel Sargent Esq. offered the following Resolutions, which were read considered and Unanimously adopted by the Town — viz,

Resolved; That in the opinion of this Town, it is of the last importance to the interests of this Country to Avert the threatened calamity of War with Great Britain; and also to restore the freedom of our Commerce; if these important objects can be attained, [**496**] consistently with the safety and honor of the American Nation.

Resolved that, a Committee of twelve be appointed, to take into consideration the present alarming state of our public affairs, in these respects and report what measures, in their opinion, it is proper for the Town to adopt at this momentous crisis.

The following Gentlemen were chosen on the Committee viz. Hon John C Jones, Hon[l]. Thomas Dawes, Hon William Brown, James Perkins Esq. Hon[l]. Israel Thorndike, Hon[l]. Sam[l]. Dexter, Hon[l]. Harrison G. Otis, Hon[l]. Ed S[t] Loe Livermore, Hon[l]. Dan[l] Sargent, Charles Jackson Esq., Cap[n]. Gamaliel Bradford, Col[o]. W[m]. H Sumner.—

Adjourned to Monday next the 15th. instant, 10 o'Clock A.M.—

Monday 15 June — 10 o'Clock. A.M.

The Town being assembled, according to adjournment, the following Report was presented by the Committee.—

The Committee appointed by the Town of Boston, to take into consideration the present alarming state of our public affairs, and report what measures in their opinion it is proper for the Town to adopt, at this momentous crisis,

Respectfully Report,

That the recent proceedings of the government of the United States justify the belief, that measures of direct hostility against Great Britain have received the sanction of one branch of the Legislature, and probably have already become law; or, if suspended, that they will finally be resumed and enforced.— While the [**497**] temper and views of the national administration are intent upon war, an expression of the sense of this Town, will, *of itself*, be quite ineffectual, either to avert this deplorable calamity, or to accelerate a return of peace. — but believing, as we do, that an immense majority of the people are invincibly averse from a conflict equally unnecessary and menacing ruin to themselves, and their posterity; convinced as we are, that the event will overwhelm them with astonishment and dismay; we cannot but trust that a general expression of the voice of the people would satisfy Congress that those of their Representa-

tives who have voted in favor of war, have not truly represented the wishes of their constituents; and thus arrest the tendency of their measures to this extremity.

But should this be hopeless, it will enable the people to combine their operations in order to produce, by constitutional means, a change of men and measures, and rescue the nation from ruin. From the commencement of the system of Commercial restrictions, the Inhabitants of this Town (Inferior we trust to none in ardent patriotism and attachment to the Union) have appeared to render themselves obnoxious to the national administration, and its partisans in this State, by their foresight and predictions of the utter inefficacy, destructive operation and ultimate tendency of this unprecedented and visionary scheme. They could discern in it nothing but a deliberate sacrifice of their best interests, and a conformity to the views of France, with whose system it cooperates, and whose approbation it receives; and hostility to Britain whose interests it wounds, and whose resentment it was calculated to excite. It was for the national Government [**498**] to determine, whether the decrees and aggressions of the belligerent powers (which commenced with the European war) would probably demand of the national honor, retaliation and resistance; or whether the peculiar character of the war, and relative situation of our Country, would justify a suspension of our resentment, and an adherence to our pacific policy. In the one case, the years which have elapsed should have been occupied in warlike preparations, which would now have been imposing and formidable.—

In the other event, it was the dictate of sound policy to protest against the predatory systems which have annoyed our commerce, and still to have pursued it by all practicable means. But government has adopted neither of these courses. It has not prepared to vindicate our commercial rights upon the ocean, where alone they are assailed; nor has it permitted the Merchant to indemnify himself in any measure for the loss of that commerce which is interrupted, by a participation in that which is left. But by a strange & infatuated policy, under the pretence of resisting the invasion of maritime rights, it has debarred its own Citizens from the use of the Ocean; and professing to avenge the injuries sustained from France and England, it has aggravated them by its own measures.—The Decrees of France, the Edicts of England, and the Acts of Congress, though intended to counteract each other, constitute in effect, a *triple league* for the annihilation of American commerce; and our own Government, as if weary of waiting for a lingering dissolution, hastens to dispatch the sufferer, by the finishing stroke of a British War.

Had the policy of Government been inclined towards resistance to the pretensions of the belligerents, by open war, there could be neither policy, reason, or justice in singling out Great Britain as the exclusive object of Hostility. [**499**] If the object of war is merely to vindicate our honor, why is it not declared against the first aggressor? If the object is defence and success,

why is it to be waged against the adversary most able to annoy, and least likely to yield? Why at the moment when England explicitly declares her Orders in Council repealed whenever France shall rescind her Decrees, is the one selected for an enemy, and the other courted as a Conqueror? These enquiries lead us into contemplations too painful to indulge and too serious to express.

Tho' we cannot discern the least reason for this discrimination in favor of France, to justify the disproportionate measure of resentment exhibited against England; still in a war with the latter power, there might have been found some consolation had our country been in any measure prepared. We might have hoped that success would in some instances have rewarded the efforts of our squadrons, That our sea coast would have been in some measure protected, that the gloom of a long and unequal contest might be relieved by the brilliancy of occasional exploits. But under present circumstances, there will be no scope for valour, no field for enterprise, no chance for success, no hope of national glory, no prospect but of a war against Great Britain, in aid of the common enemy of the human race; and in the end an inglorious peace, in which our ally will desert our interest, and act in concert with our enemy, to shackle & restrain the commerce of our infant empire, by regulations in which they will find a common interest.

If your Committee are correct in the opinion that [**500**] these sentiments are cherished by the great body of the people, it is highly expedient that they should be expressed by them in their different Towns & Counties, and that the most speedy and convenient mode should be devised to give effect to their will. The power of the Country is yet in the hands of the people. Union, energy and resolution will cause the public opinion to be respected. Our Constitution affords the means of saving our Country, by changing the men and measures which have brought upon us our present embarrassments.

It cannot be expected that a great people will quietly consent that those who represent them should abuse their trust, and wantonly expose them to ruin and disgrace. If then the people who are opposed to the present system will move with one accord, and express their disapprobation, if, influenced by a sense of their dearest and vital interests, they will unite without party distinction to save their country from a foreign war, and what is still worse to be dreaded, a *foreign yoke*, "now is the appointed time, now is the day of Salvation."— But if overawed by power, humbled by suffering, or restrained by erroneous considerations, they will submit to be plunged into the troubled Ocean of European wars, the melancholy consolation will remain for the inhabitants of Boston, while they bow in submission to the cruel destiny of their Country, that they have omitted no just occasion to warn their fellow citizens of its approach.

Wherefore your Committee recommend for the adoption of the Town the following Resolutions. —

[**501.**] Whereas the proceedings of the national government afford reason to conclude, that it is their determination to involve our Country in a war, with great Britain, and meetings of the people in a few places have been held, at which measures have been adopted, and sentiments expressed, calculated to induce government to persevere in those hostile dispositions; and it appearing desireable that the government should have full information of the opinions and wishes of the people. —

Therefore Resolved, That under existing circumstances, the Inhabitants of this Town most sincerely deprecate a war with Great Britain, as extremely injurious to the interests and happiness of the people, and peculiarly so, as it necessarily tends to an alliance with France, thereby threatening the subversion of their liberties and independence.

That an offensive war against Great Britain *alone* would be manifestly unjust; and that a war against both the belligerent powers would be an extravagant undertaking, which is not required by the honor or interest of the nation Resolved, That we view with just indignation, and emotions inspired with the love of our country, the outrages and aggressions which are offered to our lawful commerce; and we believe it is the duty of government to commence and proceed with as much diligence as the resources of our Country will warrant, in providing for its efficient protection by a naval force. And we deem all commercial restrictions, as so many engines of destruction, adopted to complete the ruin of that portion of our commerce which escapes the rapacity of foreign aggressors. —

[**502.**] Resolved, That it is the true policy and duty of this nation to adhere to an impartial neutrality; to abandon commercial restrictions; to husband the resources of the country; to indemnify itself against the losses to which its commerce is exposed in the present European war, by improving those casual advantages which arise from this state of things, and which cannot be expected in a time of profound peace. That to abstain from efforts of impotent resentment, blind rage, or desperate policy is not to be deemed submission to any foreign power, but a conformity to necessities imposed on our country by an overruling Providence, for which our courage and patriotism is not responsible. That we should endeavour to ride out the storm which we cannot direct, and that to plunge into the present war would be a wanton and impious rejection of the advantages with which the Almighty has blessed our country. —

Resolved, That our free Constitution secures to the people, the right at all times to meet together in a peaceable manner, and express their opinions on public men and measures, and to adopt means for the security of their rights; and that our fellow citizens in this, and other commercial states, are earnestly requested to join with us in a public expression of their sentiments on the system of commercial restrictions and their abhorrence of war; and that this Town, should it become expedient, will ap-

point Committees for the purpose of receiving their communications, and for corresponding or meeting with them for the adoption of such constitutional measures, as may be proposed, for [**503**] restoration of our unalienable commercial rights; for the security of our peace; and for the election of such men to office, as will use their best endeavours for the promotion of those objects, so essential to the preservation of our constitution, to the security of our union, and to the prosperity of our country. —

J. C. Jones Chairman —

The foregoing report having been repeatedly read and debated, was voted to be accepted. —

Voted, That a suitable number of copies of the foregoing report be printed with the signature of the Moderator, and that the Selectmen be requested to transmit a copy thereof to each Town in this Commonwealth.

Voted, That the thanks of the Town be given to Honl. Thomas Dawes for his services as Moderator.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston at Faneuil Hall on Saturday the 4th day of July A.D. 1812 — 9 o'clock A.M.

Thomas Clark was chosen Moderator.

The Committee appointed the last year to make choice of a Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the Anniversary of Independence — Reported, That they had chosen Benjamin Pollard Esq. who has accepted the appointment.—

Adjourned to the old [**504**] South Church where at 12 o'Clock

AN ORATION

was delivered by Benjamin Pollard Esqr to commemorate the Independence of the United States of America.

Voted, That the Selectmen be and hereby are appointed, a Committee to wait on Benjamin Pollard, Esq. in the name of the Town, and thank him for the elegant & spirited Oration, this day delivered by him at the request of the Town, upon the anniversary of American Independence, in which were considered the feelings, manners & principles, which produced the great national event; and to request of him a copy for the press.—

Voted, That the Gentlemen Selectmen be, and hereby are appointed a Committee, to apply to some able & learned Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the fifth day of July 1813. (the 4th day of July in that year falling upon Sunday) the fifth will be celebrated as the Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America; wherein the Orator is to consider, the feelings, manners and principles which led to this great national event; as well as the important and happy effects, whether general or domestic, which have already, or will forever flow from that auspicious Epoch.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[**505.**] At a Meeting of the Male Citizens of the Town of Boston qualified as the law directs, held on Faneuil Hall on Thurday the 6th day of August AD 1812. 10 o'Clock A.M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read —

Benjamin Weld Esq.
was chosen Moderator.—

Petitions for calling the Meeting — read.—

A motion was made by Colº. Sumner that the Town adopt the following Resolutions — viz.

The Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, have learnt with heartfelt concern, that in the City of Baltimore a most outrageous attack, the result of deliberate combination, has been made upon the freedom of opinion and the liberty of the press. — An infuriate mob has succeeded in accomplishing its sanguinary purposes, by the destruction of printing presses and other property, by pulling down buildings that were merely leased to the conductors of those presses, by violating the sanctuary of dwelling houses, breaking open the public prison and dragging forth from the protection of civil authority, the victims of their ferocious pursuit, guilty of no crime but the expression of their opinions, and completing the tissue of their enormities, by bruises, wounds & murders accompanied with the most barbarous & shocking indignities.

In the circumstances attending the origin, the progress, and the catastrophe of this Bloody scene, we discern with painful emotion, not merely an aggravation of the calamities of the present unjust and ruinous war, but a prelude [**506**] to the dissolution of all free government and the establishment of a reign of Terror. It is beside, marked with a strong resemblance to the early excesses of the French revolution, when opinion was punished with death, and when mobs were employed in the breaking

open of prisons & the sacrifice of many innocent persons who sought protection within their walls. Mobs by reducing men to a state of nature defeat the object of every social compact. They are equally dangerous to Governments they attempt to subvert, and to those who court their support & connive at their outrages. But of all Mobs those which volunteer professedly in support of Government are the most to be dreaded, unless their assistance is openly and promptly rejected. By accepting or even tolerating such dangerous allies, it becomes manifest that a Government dares not confide in its own strength, or in the unbiassed approbation of the people. Opposition is discouraged to the violence of such a mob, because it assumes to represent and enforce the will and pleasure of Government, and the banditti, who unreproved and uncontradicted lead the lawless multitude, feel the confidence of commissioned officers. In such a state the civil magistrate finds an excuse for his inaction, or a veil for his corruption. The sober citizen who trembles in beholding the fury of the mob, seeks refuge from its dangers by joining in its acclamations. The laws are silenced. — New objects of violence are discovered. Danger besets all men of all parties in succession. The Government of the nation and the Mob Government change places with each other. The accessory [**507**] becomes the principal — The mob erects its horrid crest over the ruins of liberty, of property, of the domestic relations of life and of civil institutions; untill satiated or fatigued with slaughter it resigns its bludgeons and its pikes at the feet of a dictator, and raises its bloody hands to worship some God of its Idolatry, to whose more tolerable despotism all ranks of men become ready to submit. —

When it is considered that this Country passed through a revolution, involving its dearest rights, without a single instance of ferocious and sanguinary excess on the part of the people, thereby affording a memorable proof of their moral feelings, their virtue and enlightened character: and when it is also considered that the present unhappy war, so repugnant to the wishes and feelings of an immense majority of *native* citizens, does not involve interests in any degree comparable with those which were at stake in our revolutionary war; it is derogatory, and inconsistent with the American character, that in the commencement of such a war, exeesses should be committed which the virtue of our citizens would not endure in a crisis when our liberties were in danger and our country actually invaded by standing armies. We are therefore compelled to believe that the outrages at Baltimore were instigated by foreigners who in their own Country have been familiarized to similar scenes, and that French emissaries are the principal agents, and the few deluded natives who joined them are merely instruments in their hands.

While these alarming scenes in a sister state, excite in us grateful emotions towards the Almighty Disposer [**508**] of human events for the quiet, peace, good order and unanimity which we are permitted to enjoy, it behooves us to exercise

becoming vigilance for the preservation of these blessings. Although a vast majority of the people of this Town and vicinity are deeply impressed with a love of order and a horror of mobs, we ought to have too much knowledge of the human character and too intimate an acquaintance with history not to know, that a few unprincipled assassins may endanger the peace and lives of thousands of the well disposed citizens.—
While such wretches who under the cover of night attempt their enterprises, are organized, united and systematic the peaceable citizens unarmed & unconscious of danger, are without system & without plan — untill the scaling ladders of the mob are at their windows, and their torches at their doors.—

Therefore — Resolved, as the sense of the Inhabitants of this Town, that the late horrible proceedings in Baltimore in first deliberately demolishing a free press and the house in which it was established, the repetition of that attack after a long interval, the violation of the prison which has ever been considered a sanctuary both for the innocent and the guilty, and the barbarous massacre of one or more citizens there confined, for no other offence than their having defended their own dwelling, and the freedom of the press, after the civil authority had neglected & refused to protect them, merits the most unqualified censure and calls for the most alarming apprehensions for the internal peace of our beloved country.
Resolved, that while we are not disposed to an [**509**] unreasonable jealousy of the constitutional authority, nor to impute to our Rulers without full proof, and indifference to the rights of the citizens; we cannot refrain from expressing our regret that the President of the United States, in whose vicinity and for the pretended support of whose measures the excesses were committed, has not thought proper to interfere in any known mode for their suppression; especially as the interdiction of shipments by the rioters and other outrages are violations of the laws of the United States, and as the influence of his high station would probably not have been slighted by these pretended supporters of his authority — we still confide in the hope that the President will not think it incompatible with his high station to express his disapprobation of these enormities.—
Resolved That we are alarmed, astonished and confounded to find, that a paper published at the seat of Government, and which is understood on some occasions, to be its organ, not only led the way to these scenes of confusion, but has impliedly approved and justified them, & that while no mention was made of this late horrible massacre in which the blood of our oldest revolutionary officers flowed in the streets of Baltimore, a severe commentary was issued in that paper against the spirited address of a republican Magistrate of New York, because he expressed his abhorrence of Mobs. We will not admit the conclusion which these facts would seem to warrant, that these Mobs are not discountenanced by the Executive of the United States, we would

rather consider them as of French origin and the first fruits of that unnatural and dreadful alliance into which we have entered, in fact, if not in form.

Resolved, that it is the duty of every good citizen [**510**] without distinction of party, to furnish himself, forthwith, with suitable arms and equipments, and to hold himself ready at a moments warning to protect and support the magistrates and Sheriff of this County, in suppressing every riot, tumult, or unlawful assembly; whatever may be the political opinions of the persons against whom the same are directed; and that the

> Honble. Daniel Sargent, Hon. J. C. Jones, Major William Sullivan, Col^o^. Henry Sargent, Joshua Davis Esquire, Major Charles Davis, Cap^n^. John Cotton, Cap^n^. Henry Purkett, Cap^n^. Ozias Goodwin, Major Joseph Tilden, Col. George Sullivan & Cap^n^. Jon^a^. Chapman

be a Committee to prepare articles of association, for this purpose; and to cause the same to be offered for signature to every Citizen of the Town; and to do whatever further may be necessary to carry into effect the object of this resolution. —

Resolved, That the said Committee be desired forthwith to cause to be assigned alarm posts for each Volunteer or other Company of Militia, and to fix and publish the signals of alarm, and to communicate the same to the Sheriff of this County.

Resolved, That the Selectmen of the Town of Boston, be and hereby are requested to take all proper & legal measures, which may in their opinion be necessary, for the preservation of the public order and tranquility of the Town.

Resolved, That we sincerely condole with the good people of Baltimore and Maryland, upon the loss of those highly respectable Citizens who have fallen victims to the unhallowed fury of a Foreign Mob; we consider them Martyrs to the cause of liberty; and to the survivors we offer an Asylum from the rage of foreigners, and our assurances of co-operating with them in any measures to save our Country. —

[**511.**] Resolved, That those outrageous proceedings are in our opinion attributable to the present wanton, impolitic and unjust war, and we fear, but a prelude to greater evils justly to be apprehended — and that we perceive no refuge from destruction, but in a change of our present rulers; and that we are ready to support in the election to the public offices, all those who are advocates for peace, without distinction of party. —

Resolved, That while we abstain from all unconstitutional measures, we will maintain & exercise the freedom of speech and of the press, untill our latest breath, undismayed by the frowns of power, the glitter of arms, the threats of placemen, or the violence of Mobs. —

The foregoing Resolutions being read and debated — a motion was made by George Blake Esq. to commit them for amend-

ment — The Question being put it passed in the negative by a very large majority.

The Question was then taken on the Resolutions and passed nearly unanimously in the affirmative.

The article in the Warrant, "To take into consideration, the expediency of choosing, and if the Town shall see fit to *choose Delegates*, to correspond with, and meet such other Delegates, as have been or may be chosen in other counties, whenever such elections shall have been generally made in the different counties in the state; provided the public exigencies shall appear to require the meeting of such a Convention to consult together for the common good; and to adopt such measures as the public interest may require." being read. —

The Honble. Samuel Dexter Esq. rose, and moved that the subject of choosing Delegates, be indefinitely postponed.

[**512.**] The subject was debated untill past 2 o'Clock — when a motion to adjourn was put & carried in the affirmative.

Adjourned to tomorrow 10 o'Clock.

Friday August 7th. 10 o'Clock A.M.
Met according to adjournment.

The motion of Mr. Dexter for an indefinite postponement was debated until nearly 2 o'Clock — when the question was taken & passed in the negative by a large Majority.

It was then (nearly unanimously) voted, That the Hon^l^. Harrison G. Otis, Honble. John C. Jones, Hon^l^. Christopher Gore, Doct. John Warren, Hon^l^. Ed S^t^. Loe Livermore, Hon^l^. Daniel Sargent, Hon^l^. Artemus Ward, William Parsons Esq. Hon^l^. Thomas Dawes, Theodore Lyman Esq. Joseph Head Esq. William Sullivan Esq. Samuel Parkman Esq. Charles Jackson Esq. Gen. Arnold Welles, James Perkins Esq. Warren Dutton Esq. David Sears Esq., & Benjamin Gorham Esq. with one other Delegate to be appointed by the town of Chelsea, if said town shall think proper to choose one — be and they are hereby appointed Delegates for the County of Suffolk to correspond with, and meet such other Delegates, as have been, or may be chosen in other Counties, whenever such elections shall have been generally made in the different Counties of the State; provided the public exigencies shall appear to require the meeting of such Convention; to consult together for the common good, and to adopt such measures as the public interest may require.

Voted, That the Town of Chelsea be invited to join with [**513**] us in the measures proposed in the foregoing vote; and to choose one Delegate for the same purpose, so as to complete the Representation of this County in any Convention that may be assembled as aforesaid. —

Voted, That the thanks of the Town be given to Benj[a]. Weld Esq. for his services as Moderator.—

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

At a Meeting of the Male Citizens of the Town of Boston, qualified as the law directs, at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 7th. day of October A D 1812.—10 o'Clock A.M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.—

Hon[ble]. Thomas Dawes,

was chosen Moderator.

Messrs. Joseph Austin & Robert Williams, were chosen Selectmen, in room of Francis Wright and John May Esq. deceased.

Rev[d]. Horace Holley, Peter O. Thatcher Esq. Mr. Francis J. Oliver & Dr. John C. Warren, were chosen Members of the School Committee, in the room of J. S. Buckminster & David Green Esq. deceased, and of John Phillips and William Prescott Esq. resigned.—

Voted, That Hon[l]. Thomas Dawes, Benjamin Russell Esq. Jonathan Hunnewell Esq. Charles Bulfinch Esq. & Mr. Andrew Sigourney be a Committee to take into consideration the application of Mr. John Odin "That the Town would sell or lease a small piece of land in the rear of his warehouse, through which the common Sewer passes" & have full power to sell or lease, by deed or deeds, [**514**] by public Auction or otherwise the said land on the best terms they can for the benefit of the Town.—

Voted, That the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, and the Members of the Board of Health, be constituted and appointed a Committee of Finance, to superintend the administration of the monied concerns of the Town.—

It shall be the duty of this Committee, and they are hereby empowered, by sub-committees or otherwise, to consult with the Treasurer on the form and manner in which the Books of his office shall be kept, to attend to the collection of Taxes, and to discharge of the duty of the Collector and his Deputies; and to advise the Assessors relative to abatements.—

And it shall be the duty of said Committee, in conjunction with the Treasurer, to prepare a clear and well defined statement of the Treasury & of monied concerns of the Town; to be handed to the Auditors of Accounts for their inspection, and to be at their disposal, to be laid before the Town at the annual meeting in May.—

It was moved to recommend to the Justice of the Court of Sessions to extend the debtors limits to the whole Town of Boston — The question being taken by polling, it appeared there were 79 against the motion & 75 in favour of it — and so passed in the negative.—

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.—

[**515.**] At a legal Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified to vote for Representatives in the General Court of this Commonwealth, at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 2d. day of November A.D. 1812. 9 o'Clock, A.M.—

Prayer by the Revd. Dr. Baldwin.—

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.—

Paragraphs of a Resolve of the General Court for choosing one Representative in the Congress of the United States for Suffolk district — read. —

The Inhabitants were informed that the Poll would be closed at 1 O'clock — the Bells to commence tolling at half past 12 O'Clock.—

Persons voted for as a Representative for the Suffolk District in this Commonwealth in the next Congress of the United States, viz,

	Honble. Artemus Ward - - - -	1527—
Revd. Horace Holly 5.	William Gray Esq. 4 - -	9—
Samuel Dexter Esq. 2.	Loammi Baldwin Esq. 2	4
Caleb Bingham Esq. 1.	Saml. Livermore Esq. 1	2
William Sullivan Esq. 1.	Wm H. Sumner Esq. 1	2
Thomas O Selfridge Esq. 1.	Daniel Tuttle 1 - -	2—
Thomas Joy Junr. 1 - - - - - - - - - - - -		1—

And declaration made thereof by the Selectmen in public Town Meeting.—

A return of the doings of this Meeting was made out (conformable to the one in the Town officer) and put into the hands of Alden Bradford Esq., Secretary of the Commonwealth, by the Town Clerk.—

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[**516.**] At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualified to vote for Representatives to the General

Court of this Commonwealth, at Faneuil Hall on thursday the 12 day of November AD 1812 — 9 O'Clock A.M.

Prayer by the Rev^{d}. Mr. Gardiner.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read —

The Inhabitants were directed by the Selectmen to bring in their written or printed votes for five persons as Electors of President and Vice President of the United States, for the District of Suffolk, Essex and Middlesex.—

The votes were received untill 2 O'Clock when the Selectmen declared the Poll to be closed — the votes were then sorted & counted in open Town Meeting, & a Return made out and directed to the Secretary of the Commonwealth, as follows, viz.

At a legal Town Meeting held at Boston in the County of Suffolk on the Twelfth day of November AD. 1812 for the choice of Electors of President & Vice President of the United States, the undernamed Persons had the number of votes to their names respectively annexed, viz.

	Hon^{l}. Harrison Gray Otis Esq. - - - - - - -	3129
	Hon^{l}. Nathan Dane Esq. - - - - - - - - - -	3130
	Hon^{l}. Jeremiah Nelson Esq. - - - - - - - -	3130
	Abraham Bigelow Esq. - - - - - - -	3129
	Genl. John Walker - - - - - - - - - - - -	3129
	Hon^{l}. William Gray Esq. - - - - - - - - -	831
[**517.**]	Hon^{l}. Samuel Brown Esq. - - - - - - - -	830
	Moses Townsend Esq. - - - - - - -	830
	William Pearce Esq. - - - - - - - -	830
	Samuel Hoar Esq. - - - - - - - - -	830

Samuel Dexter Esq. 1. Elisha Ticknor Esq. 1. John Blanchard 1. William Austin 1. Thomas Burley 1.—

Sorted, counted and sealed in presence of

Charles Bulfinch
Eben^{r}. Oliver
Jon^{a}. Hunnewell
Jos. Foster
Nathan Webb
Benj Weld
Joseph Lovering
Joseph Austin
Robt. Williams
} Selectmen.

Attest, Thomas Clark, Town Clerk.

Declaration of the state of the Votes was then made, & the Meeting was Dissolved

1813

[**518.**] At a Meeting of the Male Citizens of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public Town Meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the eighth day of March A.D. 1813 — 10 O'Clock A.M.—

Prayer by Rev^{d}. Mr. Eaton.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read —

Hon^{l}. John Phillips Esq. was chosen Moderator.

Laws respecting the Election of Town Officers — read —

Thomas Clark
was chosen Town Clerk for the year ensuing —

The Oath of office was administered to him by the Honorable Moderator. —

Charles Bulfinch, Ebenezer Oliver, Jonathan Hunnewell, Joseph Foster, Nathan Webb, Benjn. Weld, Joseph Lovering, Joseph Austin and Robert Williams Esquires were chosen Selectmen for the year ensuing.

The oath respecting Elections, required by law to be taken by the Selectmen, was Administered to them by the Moderator.

William Smith	William Phillips
Redford Webster	Thomas Perkins
Samuel Snelling	Ozias Goodwin
Joseph Coolidge Ju^{r}.	Joseph Richards
Bryant P. Tilden	William Mackay
Ephraim Elliot	Jonathan Phillips Esquires

were chosen Overseers of the Poor. —

[**519.**] Thomas Melvill	Andrew Cunningham
John Winslow	Stephen Codman
John Bray	Jonathan Hunnewell
Daniel Messinger	William Sullivan
Benjamin Smith	Nathl. Curtis
Edward Cruft	James Phillips
Bryant P. Tilden	Nathan Webb
George Blanchard	Samuel M Thayer
Joseph Tilden	Thomas Page
Joseph Austin	Benjamin Rich
Gedney King	Francis J Oliver
Joseph Lovering	John D. Williams

were chosen Fire Wards. —

Voted, That in addition to the Selectmen twelve persons, shall now be chosen a *School Committee;* and the votes being collected it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen, viz. —

Rev^{d}. William E. Channing	Rev^{d}. Charles Lowell
Rev^{d}. Horace Holley	Doct^{r}. Aaron Dexter
Doct^{r}. Thomas Welsh	Doct^{r}. John C. Warren
Charles Davis	John Heard Ju^{r}.
Peter O. Thacher	Francis J. Oliver
William Smith	William Welles Esquires.

Voted, That the above named Gentlemen, who conjunctly with the Selectmen are termed the School Committee, be and hereby are directed to carry the system of Education adopted by the Town into operation; and that said Committee be also authorized & empowered to manage and regulate the Government of the Schools; and to execute all the powers relative to the Schools & School Masters, which the Selectmen or such Committees are authorized by the laws of the Commonwealth or by votes of the Town to exercise.

Messrs. Benjamin White	Messrs. John Cogswell
William Clouston	William Ellison
Nathl. Bradley Junr.	Noah Doggett
Braddock Loring	Thomas Christie
[520.] William Green	Eleazer Homer
Joseph Stodder	Allen Bowker
William Ellison Junr.	Nathl. Glover
John Howe Junr.	Richard Thayer
Ed. J Robbins	Henry Blaek
Joseph Tucker	Moses Eayres Junr.

were chosen Surveyors of Boards & other Lumber.

Messrs. Henry Purkett	Messrs. John Smith
Nathl. Howe	Benj^{a}. Clark

were chosen cullers of Hoops and Staves.

Messrs. Thomas Barbour	Messrs. Nathl. Howe
Benj^{a}. Clark	Gershom Spear
Charles Pook	John Bannister
John Smith	Benj^{a}. Owen
James Brown	William J. Hammatt

were chosen Cullers of Dry Fish.

Messrs. Benjamin White
Nathl. Bradlee Junr. and
William Ellison —

were chosen Fence viewers.—

Messrs. Joseph Cobbet
Rufus Harrington (resigned)
Israel Mead Jr. and
Theophilus Curtis —
were chosen Hogreeves and Haywards.

Samuel Emmons and
James Phillips Esquires,
were chosen Surveyors of Hemp.—

Edward Tuckerman and
Josiah Snelling Esquires,
were chosen Surveyors of Wheat.

Messrs. John Wells and
Richard Austin,
were chosen Assay Masters.

Messrs. Michael Homer
Francis James and
Samuel Sprague,—
were chosen Inspectors of Lime.

The Selectmen were chosen surveyors of highways.

[**521.**] William Smith Esq. — was chosen Town Treasurer and Collector for the ensuing year.—

Votes — for a Treasurer for the County of Suffolk were received sorted and counted by the Moderator and Town Clerk — when it appeared

That John Winslow Esquire had 246 votes
and William Smith Esquire - - - - - - 1 — d°.—

Voted, That Samuel Brown, John Lowell and John Welles Esquires be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee to audit the accounts of the Town Treasurer, and also those of the Overseers of the Poor, & the Board of Health. And said Committee are directed to report the sum necessary to be raised for the services of the present year.

Voted, That the consideration of all money matters be referred to next May Meeting

The following By Law was passed by the Town, viz

It is hereby ordered, That whosoever shall at any time hereafter exercise the dangerous practice of Coursing or coasting on Sleds in any of the streets of this town, shall forfeit and pay the sum of Two Dollars for every offence, to be paid by each

offender respectively; which fine or penalty shall be paid, where any offender herein shall happen to be under age, by the parent or guardian of any such offender.

Voted, That the Selectmen be requested to lay the foregoing By law before the Court of Sessions for confirmation.—

On the Petition of a number of the Inhabitants, "to adopt measures to remedy the growing evil of forestalling the Market." it was

Voted, That Peter O Thacher Esq., Benjamin Russell Esq. [522] and Mr. Joseph Callender be a Committee to consider what measures it will be proper for the Town to adopt in order to remove the evil complained of, & to report the next May meeting.—

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be given to Arnold Welles Esq. for his faithful services as one of the School Committee for many years past.

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be given to the Hon[l]. John Phillips Esq., for his services as Moderator of this Meeting.—

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of twenty one years of age and upwards qualified as the Constitution prescribes and legally warned in public Town Meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday 5[rh] day of April A.D. 1813 9 O'Clock A.M.—

Prayer by Rev[d]. Mr. Channing —

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read. —

Paragraphs of the Constitution or Frame Government, relative to the choice of Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Senators — read. Also the Law for districting the Commonwealth for the choice of Councillors & Senators. — read. —

It was then declared by the Selectmen that no printed vote would be received, and that the vote should be put into the box unfolded. —

It was afterwards declared that the Poll [523] should be closed at 2 O Clock and that the bells begin tolling at half past 1 O'Clock. —

Persons voted for as Governour with the number of votes for each person — viz.

His Excellency Caleb Strong - - - - - - - - - - -	3571
Hon[l]. Joseph B. Varnum - - - - - - - - - - - -	1446
Hon[l]. Samuel Dexter - - - - - - - - - - - - -	40
Hon[l]. William Eustis - - - - - - - - - - - - -	8
H. G. Otis 1 Josiah Bradlee 1. - - - - - - - -	2
Joshua Ellis 1. Benj Austin 1. - - - - - - - -	2
	5069.—

Persons voted for as Lieutenant Governour with the number of votes for each person, viz. —

His Honor William Phillips Esq. - - - - - - - -	3578
Hon[l]. William King - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1484
C. Strong 1. W[m]. Gray 1. Josiah Marshall 1. - -	3
Amos Lewis 1. S. Dexter 1. James Lloyd 1. - -	3
William Eustis 1. - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1
	5069

Persons voted for as Senators for the district of Boston in the County of Suffolk, with the number of votes for each person, viz. —

Hon[l]. John Phillips - - - - - - - - - -	3597
Hon[l]. Israel Thorndike - - - - - - - - -	3594
Hon[l]. Josiah Quincy - - - - - - - - - -	3594
Hon[l]. John Welles - - - - - - - - - - -	3599
Hon[l]. Thomas H. Perkins - - - - - - -	3593
Hon[l]. David Tilden - - - - - - - - - -	1459
Samuel Brown Esq. - - - - - - -	1460
Jonathan L. Austin Esq. - - - - - -	1458.
Caleb Bingham Esq. - - - - - - -	1457.
William Little Esq. - - - - - - -	1456.

[524.]	John C. Jones Esq. -	2.	Russell Sturgis 3 - -		5
	Thomas L. Winthrop -	1.	Richard Sullivan 3 -		4
	Samuel Cobb - - -	1	Stephen Codman 1 - -		2
	Arnold Welles - - -	2	William Brown 1 - -		3
	William Sullivan - -	1	William Coolidge 1 -		2
	Sam[l]. F. Coolidge - -	1.	Edward Harris 1 - -		2
	William Beal - - -	1	Samuel Orcutt 1 - -		2
	Samuel May - - -	1	Henry Messinger 1 -		2
	Jon[a]. Hunnewell - -	1	John Kuhn 1 - - -		3
	Gardner Chandler - -	1	Benj Weld 1 - - -		2
	William Spooner - - - - - - - - - - - - - -				1

Attested Copies of return of the persons voted for as Governour, Lieutenant Governour and Senators for the district of

Boston, in the County of Suffolk sealed up in open Town Meeting, after the vote had been declared, to be transmitted to the Secretary of the Commonwealth as prescribed by the law, and directed as follows — vizt.,

To Alden Bradford Esq.
Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Votes of the Town of Boston for Governour, Lieutenant Governour and Five Senators for the district of Boston, in the County of Suffolk, Sealed up in open Town Meeting.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[**525.**] At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the Town of Boston of twenty one years of age & upwards, qualified as the Constitution prescribes at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the 13th day of May A.D. 1813. 9 o'clock A.M.

Prayer by the Rev^{d}. Mr. Holley.—

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read —

Paragraphs of the Constitution relating to the choice of Representatives — read — also the laws of the State regulating the election of Representatives — read —

The return of the Assessors signifying that the Major & Minor Polls of this Town for the present year were 8826 — being also read — The Inhabitants were directed to bring in their votes for Representatives not exceeding thirty nine.—

Votes were received by the Selectmen untill 1 O'Clock when the Poll was closed. They then proceeded to sort and count the votes, when it appeared that the whole number of votes given in was 1065 — necessary to make a choice 533. — The following (Thirty nine) Gentlemen had a Majority and were declared to be chosen — vizt.

	William Smith	Charles Davis
	Harrison G. Otis	Benjamin Whitman
	James Lloyd	James Robinson
	Daniel Sargent	William Hammatt
	Jonathan Hunnewell	William H. Sumner
	Benjamin Russell	Ephraim Thayer
	William Sullivan	Benjamin Weld
	Stephen Codman	Oliver Keating
[**526.**]	Nathan Webb	Thacher Goddard
	Daniel Messenger	Lynde Walter

George G. Lee	Samuel J Prescott
William Porter	Lemuel Shaw
Samuel M. Thayer	James Savage
George Blanchard	Jonathan Loring
Nathaniel Curtis	Joseph Pierce
Richard Faxon	Andrew Sigourney
Samuel Dunn	Thomas Barry
John D Howard	William Harris
Jonathan Whitney	Joseph Tilden

and Richard Sullivan —

Then the Meeting was Dissolved —

At a meeting of the Male Citizens of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned, assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 24th day of May AD 1813 — 10 O'Clock AM

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

Hon[1]. John Phillips chosen Moderator.

The Selectmen in conformity to Law passed at the last session of the General Court, laid before the Town a list of Persons they had selected to serve as Grand & Traverse Jurors at the Courts in this State & at the United States Courts. — The Report of the Selectmen was considered — and it was Voted. That the Town confirm their doings. —

The Committee on Accounts [**527**] made the following Report.

The Subscribers a Majority of the Committee appointed to audit the accounts of the Town, have attended to that service, and ask leave to report, That they have examined the Town Treasurers accounts, and have found them duly vouched, and right cast, that it appears there was a balance of Cash in his hands, on the first Instant of Three thousand and ninety one Dollars & thirty five Cents, which has been placed to the credit of the Town in his new Account. —
The Committee would also report, as their opinion, that it would be expedient for the Town to grant a Tax of Seventy five thousand Dollars, to be assessed on the Inhabitants, to defray the Expences of the Town for the current year, it being the sum that was granted the last year. — Although it would have been desireable in the minds of the Committee, from the existing depression of affairs, incident to a state of War, to have stated a less sum, than they have now reported, to be assessed upon the inhabitants, Yet as the debts of the Town unprovided for, will probably amount to fifty or sixty thousand dollars, the Committee could not feel themselves justified in reporting a less sum. —

But when it is considered that for the security of the Rights & property as well as the convenience & comfort of the Inhabitants within a few years several new and extraordinary objects have been obtained by the expenditures of the Town, such as "the *Alms House*" — "Faneuil Hall." The "County House" — *Burial Ground* — widening of Streets &c — The amount of the present debt of the Town ought not perhaps to be a subject of surprise or regret. — These expences will be found to amount to more than Two hundred thousand Dollars. — In no period since the first settlement of the Town have the Inhabitants in the same number of years been called on to contribute so largely, nor so many objects of permanent utility, or importance been obtained. To this Cause & to the late decline of Commerce probably may be attributed no inconsiderable [528] part of the loss that has been suffered by the Town, from the large amount in small Taxes which remain uncollected.—

And the Committee, with deference would further observe, that they do not at present see any practicable means of extinguishing the debt of the Town, but by the effect of a retrenchment on the part of its expences, now especially on those which relate to improvements. — This in a few years they hope by degrees would extinguish it. An increase of Taxes at this time for that purpose the Committee have not the temerity to recommend; but to avoid, as far as may be possible hereafter, any losses to the Town, in the collection of Taxes, the Committee in accordance with the report of the sub-committee of Finance, presented herewith, would recommend as a salutary measure, that the Treasurer be instructed to effect a more speedy collection of the Taxes which may hereafter be committed to him, as well as of those which are outstanding. —

And agreeably to another report of the sub-Committee "of Finance herewith submitted, they recommend "That application "be made to the General Court for such alteration of the Law "as may make the sums taxed on Real Estate a *lien* upon said "Estate which in Case of transfer of the property would secure "the Tax to the Town" — And further that all such powers may be given to the Treasurer & Collector of Taxes as that he may by a vigilant use of them enforce a more equitable adjustment of the public burthens and remove the evils to which the present system is liable. — Should the aforesaid sum of Seventy five thousand Dollars be directed by the Town to be assessed on the inhabitants the Committee would recommend that it be appropriated as follows

To the drafts of the Selectmen - - - -	53,000
D°. - - of Overseers of the Poor - -	23,000
D°. - - of Board of Health - - - -	7,000
	$83,000
Deduct for Rents in income - - - - -	8,000
to be assessed on the inhabitants for the year 1813. —,	$75,000

This Report is
[529] with all due Respect submitted for the consideration of the Town.

Samuel Brown } Com^ee^. —
John Welles }

The foregoing Read, considered & accepted by the Town. —

Voted, That the sum of Seventy five thousand Dollars be raised by a tax to be assessed on the Polls and Estates of the Inhabitants of this Town to defray the expences of the current year. —

Voted — That the Committee of Finance, consisting of the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, and Board of Health, be instructed to cause such parts of their reports and of that of the Auditors of Accounts to be published, as they may judge will give information to the Inhabitants on their money concerns.

The Committee on the subject of Forestalling the Market made a lengthy Report, which being read — it was voted, That the consideration of the Report be referred to the adjournment of this Meeting, & that the same be printed for the information of the Inhabitants.

Voted, That the sum of two hundred Dollars be appropriated towards maintaining a School for African children, under the direction of the School Committee.

Voted, That the sum of Seven hundred & fifty Dollars be allowed & paid unto Hon^l^. Thomas Dawes Esq., for his Salary as Judge of the Municipal Court for the ensuing year.

Voted, That the sum of One Thousand Dollars be allowed and paid unto Thomas Clark for his Salary as Town Clerk the present year.

Voted, That the sum of Eight hundred & sixteen dollars be allowed and paid unto each of the three Assessors for [530] their Services in that office the year ensuing.

Voted, That the subject of the compensation to be allowed the Town Treasurer & Collector for the present year, be referred to the Committee of Finance, to report at the adjournment.

Adjourned to Thursday the 3^d^ day of June next, 10 O'Clock A M. —

Thursday June 3^d^.
Met according to adjournment.

The Moderator being absent,
Ebenezer Oliver Esq.
was chosen Moderator Pro tem.

Adjourned to Wednesday next the 9th. day of June instant 10 O'Clock A M.

Met according to adjournment.

The Report of the Committee on the subject of Forestalling the Market was taken up, considered, and accepted.

Voted That it be recommended to the citizens generally to complain to the law officers of the Commonwealth, to the Grand Jury & to the Justices of the Peace, of all instances of forestalling, regrating, engrossing and of all other fraudulent practices, which may come to their knowledge, and to furnish the necessary evidence of the same, that measures may thereupon be immediately taken to bring the offenders to punishment. —

Voted, That there be annually chosen by the Town, or otherwise appointed in such way as the Town shall direct, twelve substantial Citizens, who shall be called Inspectors of the Market, and whose special duty it shall be, to enquire after & cause to be prosecuted according to Law, all forestallers, regraters, engrossers & fraudulent dealers in the Market, either by false weights & measures or any other way.

[**531.**] Voted, That the license of any person to sell in the Market, who shall be duly convicted of any of the Offences aforesaid, shall be immediately taken away, and that he shall not be permitted to hire or use a stall in the Market, or to expose articles for Sale there, for a term not less than one year from and after conviction, and that this regulation be enforced by a by law of the Town.—

Voted, That that part of the ancient market which is called Dock Square, be appropriated to dealers from the Country, and that no inhabitant of the Town, or of any neighboring town, not offering for sale the produce of his own farm, shall be permitted to occupy the same to the exclusion of the *bona fide* Country-dealer, and that this regulation be enforced by a Bye Law of the Town.—

Voted, That the approbation of the Selectmen be withholden from any persons, the owners or occupants of any house, store or cellar applying for a licence as a tavener, victualler or retailer, who shall be known to aid and encourage in the commission of any of the offences against the Market, which are herein before described.—

The Town then passed the following By Laws, & ordered the Town Clerk to present the same to the Court of Sessions for confirmation.— vizt.

It is hereby ordered, that no person who shall at any time hereafter be convicted of either of the offences of forestalling, regrating, engrossing, or of any species of fraudulent dealing in the Market, shall be permitted to use or hire a stall or have or occupy any stand in either of the public markets of the Town, or in any street leading thereto, for the purpose of offering for sale any article of Provisions usually sold in Market, for the term of one year from and after such conviction: and in case any person shall after [**532**] such conviction and within the said term of time, presume to use or occupy any stall or stand in either of the said Markets, or in any of the streets leading thereto, for the purpose aforesaid, he shall for every such offence forfeit a sum not exceeding Five Dollars nor less than two dollars, the one moiety thereof for the use of the complainant, and the other moiety thereof for the use of the Town.
It is hereby ordered that no person not offering for Sale the produce of his own farm, shall be permitted to occupy that part of the ancient market which is called Dock square — And if any such person shall presume to occupy with his Cart, team, or in any other way the said Dock square after being ordered therefrom by the Clerk of the Market, he shall forfeit a sum not exceeding Five Dollars nor less than two Dollars for every hour, in which he shall continue to offend in this respect, the one moiety thereof to the use of the Complainant, and the other moiety thereof to the use of the Town. —

Major Benjamin Russell
Col°. Thomas Badger and
Mr. Joseph Callender, were appointed a Committee to select twelve persons (one from each ward) as Inspectors of the Market, and report them at the adjournment.

Adjourned to Friday next 10 o'Clock AM. —

N. B. The By Laws and foregoing Votes to be printed in News papers after [being] confirmed by the Court of Sessions. —

[**533.**] Met according to adjournment.

The report of the Committee of Finance was read and considered — and it was voted. That the Senators of the County of Suffolk, and the Representatives of this Town, be requested to apply to the General Court, for an Act to be passed Authorizing the "Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor and Board of Health" Annually to appoint the Treasurer & Collector (or Collectors,) of taxes for the Town of Boston. —

The Committee appointed at the last Meeting to select one person from each Ward as Inspectors of the Market, reported the following list which was accepted by the Town - - - - vizt.

Mr.	Gidney King for	Ward	No.	1.—
"	John D. Howard jr. - -	"	"	2
"	Turell Tuttle - - - -	"	"	3
"	Samuel Hichborn - -	"	"	4
"	Zachariah Hicks - - -	"	"	5
Capn.	Jonathan Whitney - -	"	"	6
Mr.	John P. Thorndike - -	"	"	7
"	George Palmer - - -	"	"	8
Capn.	James B Marston - -	"	"	9
Mr.	Joseph Allen - - - -	"	"	10
"	Edward Gray - - - -	"	"	11
"	William Brown Junr. -	"	"	12

Voted, That all the unfinished business contained in the Report of the Committee of Finance be referred to the next Town Meeting

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[**534.**] At a legal Meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Boston qualified as the Law directs assembled at Faneuil Hall on Friday 11th. day of June A D 1813 10 O'Clock A. M.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

Benjamin Weld Esq.
was chosen Moderator.

This Meeting was called in consequence of a Petition from Isaac P. Davis and others, now pending before the Legislature, " that they may be incorporated for the purpose of building a Mill dam and turnpike road from Beacon street to Roxbury, and erecting other Mill improvements "

The petition having been read and considered — it was moved & Voted, to refer the same to a Committee consisting of the Board of Selectmen & one Gentleman from each Ward of the Town, to take the subject into consideration, and Report at a future Meeting, what measures it will be proper for the Town to adopt to secure their interest in the premises. —

The following Gentlemen were nominated & chosen for the Wards — vizt —

Coln. Thomas Badger for Ward No.	1.	
Redford Webster Esq. - - - -	2	
Dea— Rainsford - - - - - -	3	
Josiah Marshall - - - - - -	4	
Lynde Walter - - - - - - -	5	
Thos. W. Sumner - - - - -	6	

Benjamin Austin Esq. - - - - - 7
Saml. M. Thayer Esq. - - - - - 8
Isaac Winslow - - - - - - - 9
Saml. Cobb Esq. - - - - - - - 10
Col^{n}. Danl. Messenger - - - - - 11
Dea Faxon - - - - - - 12

Adjourned to Monday the 12th day of July next 10 oClock AM.

[**535.**] At a Convention consisting of the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor & Board of Health, assembled at Faneuil Hall in Boston by virtue of the following Act of this Commonwealth intitled "An Act providing for the appointment of a Town Treasurer & Collectors of Taxes in the Town of Boston — as follows — vizt.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred & thirteen. —

An Act providing for the appointment of a Town Treasurer, and Collectors of Taxes in the Town of Boston.

Sec^{n}. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same. That from and after the passing of this Act, the Selectmen the Overseers of the Poor, and the Board of Health of the Town of Boston, shall annually in the Months of June or July, meet in Convention in the Town of Boston, and appoint some suitable person or persons as Collectors of Taxes in said Town, who when appointed as aforesaid, shall have like powers, and be subject to like duties, in the discharge and execution of their said several offices as other Town Treasurers and Collectors of Taxes have, and are subject to in this Commonwealth; and the said Town Treasurer & Collectors so as aforesaid appointed, shall continue in office for one year and untill others are appointed in manner aforesaid and qualified to execute their said offices, and a record of the appointment as aforesaid of said Town Treasurer and Collectors shall be made by the Town Clerk of the Town of Boston, in the records of said town kept by him, and the said Town Treasurer, and Collectors to be appointed as aforesaid shall be sworn to the faithful discharge of their said several trusts, and give such [**536**] bonds to the said town of Boston conditioned for the faithful execution of the duties of their said offices as the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, and Board of Health met in Convention as aforesaid shall direct previous to their entering on the duties of their said several offices aforesaid. —

Provided however, the said Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, and the said Board of Health shall never reappoint any person to said office of Town Treasurer or Collector of Taxes as aforesaid

untill such persons shall have faithfully & fully completed the execution of his duty in his said Office to which he was appointed the year preceeding, and a full and complete settlement of the taxes by him to have been received or collected according to Law, shall have been made or [he] shall have been excused therefrom by a vote of the said Town of Boston. And whenever by Death, resignation or otherwise the said office of Town Treasurer or Collector shall be vacant, the aforesaid Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor and Board of Health shall be as aforesaid authorized to fill such vacancy by a new appointment in manner aforesaid. And all Laws heretofore made respecting either of the aforesaid offices of Town Treasurer & Collector of Taxes in the Town of Boston, that are inconsistant with the provision of this Act, be, and the same are hereby repealed, from and after the fourth day of July next.— In the House of Representatives — June 16. 1813.

This Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.— Timothy Bigelow — Speaker

In Senate —

This Bill having had two several readings passed to be enacted.—

John Phillips — President

June 16th. 1813. Approved,

Caleb Strong —

Secretarys Office
June 22d. 1813 } a True Copy
Attest. Alden Bradford
Secy. of Commonwealth

On the 28th. day of June AD 1813

[537.] Present a majority of each Board

Charles Bulfinch Esq. Chairman.

The Law authorizing the meeting of this Convention being read — it was.

Voted, That this Convention will appoint the same person Collector of Taxes, that they shall appoint Town Treasurer, and that they will appoint but one Collector.

Voted, That Wednesday next 5 O'Clock P.M. be assigned for the choice of the Treasurer & Collector.

Voted, That Mess Bulfinch, Whitman, Weld & Mackay be a Committee, to consider the subject of collecting Taxes generally, and examine the laws relative thereto, to determine which of them remain in force; and what sum the Treasurer & Collector ought to receive for his services.—

Adjourned to Wednesday next 5 O'Clock PM.

Wednesday 30 June 1813 5 O'Clock PM
The Convention met according to Adjournment

Present a Majority of each Board.

Agreeable to assignment, the Convention proceeded to the choice of a Town Treasurer for the year ensuing — upon sorting & counting the votes it appeared that Mr. Andrew Sigourney had a majority and was declared to be elected.—

The Votes for a Collector of taxes for the year ensuing being brought in sorted and counted it appeared that Mr. Andrew Sigourney had a majority and was declared to be elected.

The Committee appointed by this Convention to examine the laws relative to the collection of taxes in the Town of Boston, and to consider which of them are now in force — and for other purposes — offer the [**538**] following Report.

That they have examined the laws which have been enacted from time to time by the Legislature for the collection of taxes in the Town of Boston, and are of opinion that the law passed for this purpose in March 1808, is in full force, and gives sufficient power to the Treasurer & Collector to ensure a prompt collection of the Taxes, in addition to the general laws of the Commonwealth on this subject.— and that all other special laws relative thereto are repealed by the law under which this Convention is assembled.

Your Committee report as their opinion that the Treasurer should give a Bond for the sum of twenty thousand Dollars, & the Collector of taxes in the same sum conditioned for their faithful performance of the duties of their office, with such sureties as shall be approved by this Convention

They also propose that it be recommended to the Town as the opinion of this Convention that the sum of twenty five hundred dollars be allowed to the Treasurer and Collector in full compensation for their services for one year ensuing & for such Clerks and deputies as they may find it necessary to employ.

The foregoing Report was read considered and accepted by the Convention.—

Messrs. Bulfinch, Whitman & Mackay were appointed a Committee to lay before the Town the opinion of this Convention that the sum of $2500 Per annum be allowed to the Treasurer and Collector in full for their services.— The same Committee to prepare the form of a Bond to be given by the Treasurer & Collector.

Adjourned to Friday next 2d July 1813 5 O'Clock PM.

[539.] The Convention met according to adjournment.

Present a Majority of each Board.—

Mr. A Sigourney appeared and declared his acceptance of the Office of Town Treasurer, as also of Collector of taxes for the ensuing year — and proposed Samuel Smith Esq. and George Blanchard Esq. as his bondsmen.

Messrs. Weld, Austin, Perkins, Eliot, Whitman and James Loring, were appointed a Committee to consider the responsibility of the Gentlemen offered by Mr. Sigourney as his bondsmen & report.

The Committee unanimously reported, That the Bondsmen offered by Mr. Sigourney who has been chosen Treasurer and Collector, were in their opinion ample and sufficient.—

Ordered, That Mr. Joseph Foster, Bryant P Tilden, and Samuel Dorr Esqs. be a Committee from this Convention to complete on their part, and in behalf of this Convention any further service, in transfering the Books, records and papers from the late Treasurer to the new Treasurer &c — which may be necessary to complete their duty under the Act entitled an "An Act providing for the appointment of a Town Treasurer and Collectors of taxes in the Town of Boston"

The Oaths of Office were administered to Mr. Andrew Sigourney, chosen Treasurer and Collector by Benjamin Whitman Esq.— a Justice of the Peace.—

The following Vote passed the Convention - - - - vizt.

Whereas the official duties of the Town Treasurer under the former establishment will cease on the 4th of July and it will be necessary for closing the Accounts of the Treasurer & Collector & his deputies to employ the time of William Smith Esq. it is Voted, That it be recommended by this Convention that the Town should allow to Willm. Smith Esq. the sum of five hundred Dollars in addition to the Salary for that portion of the year which has elapsed since his choice by the Town in March last.

Then the Convention was Dissolved.—

[540.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 5th day of July, AD, 1813, 9 OClock AM

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read

Thomas Clark
was chosen Moderator —

The Committee appointed the last year to make choice of a Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the anniversary of Independence Reported — That they had chosen Edward St. Loe Livermore Esq. who has accepted the appointment

Adjourned to meet at the Old South Church 12 O'Clock.

Met at the Old South Church — where

AN ORATION.

Was delivered by Edward St. Loe Livermore Esq. to commemorate the Independence of the United States of America.

Voted, That the Selectmen be, and hereby are appointed a Committee to wait on the Hon^l. Edward St. Loe Livermore Esq. in the name of the Town, and thank him for the elegant & spirited Oration, this day delivered by him at the request of the Town, upon the anniversary of American Independence, in which were considered the feelings, manners and principles which produced the great national event; and to request of him a copy for the press.

Voted, That the Gentlemen Selectmen be, & hereby are appointed a Committee, to apply to some able and learned Gentleman to deliver an Oration on the 4th. day of July 1814 — That day being the Anniversary of the [541] Independence of the United States of America; wherein the Orator is to consider, the feelings, manners & principles which led to this great National event; as well as the important & happy effects, whether general or domestic, which have already, or will forever flow from that auspicious Epoch.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

At a legal Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston held by adjournment from the 11th. day of June last past, assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the 12th day of July A.D. 1813 10 O'Clock AM.

Jonathan Hunnewell Esq.
was chosen Moderator pro tem.

The Committee appointed to consider the application of Isaac P. Davis & others for a Mill dam and Turnpike road from the bottom of Beacon Street to Roxbury, and for erecting other Mill

improvements" Report, that they have attended to the business assigned them and have examined the places of the proposed undertaking: they find the subject will require further time to enable the Committee to give it the attention which it deserves; they therefore propose that they have liberty to make their final report at a future meeting to be called for that purpose. And that the Selectmen be desired to call such meeting when they shall find the Committee ready to report. P order

Boston July 12th. 1813. Charles Bulfinch, Chairman

The foregoing Report was read and accepted by the Town.

[542.] The Committee of Finance to whom was referred the consideration of the salaries to be paid to the Treasurer and Collector & his deputies, report as their opinion — That there be allowed to those officers for the four Months, commencing in March last & ending July 4th. at the same rate to each, as was voted to them by the Town last year viz.

To the Town Treasurer & Collector	1500 P Ann.	is 500
To each Deputy Collector - - -	300 D° - -	100
Treasurers Clerk - - - - - -	600 D° - -	200

P order

Boston July 2d. 1813. Charles Bulfinch Chairman

The foregoing Report being read a motion was made that the same be accepted by the Town, which being put passed in the affirmative

The following proceedings of the Convention was laid before the Town —vizt.

At a meeting of the Convention composed of the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor & Board of Health, on Wednesday June 30th. 1813 — Voted, That it be recommended to the Town, as the opinion of this Convention, that the sum of twenty five hundred Dollars be allowed to the Treasurer & Collector in full compensation for their services for one year ensuing, & for such Clerks and deputies as they may find it necessary to employ.—

A true Copy from the proceedings of the Convention

Attest. Tho. Clark. Town Clerk.

Voted, That the sum of twenty five hundred dollars be allowed & paid unto the Treasurer & Collector for the year ensuing, agreeable to the foregoing recommendation.

Voted, That Joseph Foster, Bryant P. Tilden & Samuel Dorr Esq. be and hereby are appointed a Committee to [543] audit the Accounts of the late Town Treasurer, to receive from him the Books, records & papers belonging to the Treasury department,

& those of the Collector of taxes, & to transfer the same to the new Treasurer.

Edward Tuckerman William Brown
Joshua Davis William Hammatt
Peter O Thacher & Thomas Dawes Esquires.
were chosen Trustees of the land on Boston Neck. —

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

At a legal Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, assembled in Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 20th. day of October A.D. 1813 — 10 O'Clock AM.

Warrant for calling the Meeting — read.

Hon1. Thomas Dawes Esq.
chosen Moderator.

The Committee appointed on the Petition of Isaac P. Davis & others Reported,

That they have maturely considered the subject committed to them, have viewed plans of the dams and basins proposed to be connected with this Town, and the other extensive improvements projected by the petitioners. — They have principally confined themselves to the consideration of that part of the plan, which immediately relates to the interest of the Town's land, and the private abutters. The Committee publicly invited all persons to appear and state their objections to the proposed project. A memorial was received from a [544] number, but the Committee are happy to state, that few material objections have been made, and that they can be in a great measure obviated by suitable provisions to be inserted in the grant from the Town, and in the act of incorporation. —

The Committee have considered, that if, to the commercial advantages of this Town, permanent establishments for manufactures of various useful kinds could be added, the interest of the Town would be greatly promoted; large amounts of capital, which are forcing their way in distant & inconvenient situations, would be retained among us; all classes of our citizens would find new sources of employment; and an extensive tract of land, the property of the Town, would be rendered valuable, and in a few years be covered with the habitations of useful and industrious citizens, adding strength to the Town, and a permanent accumulation of its resources. The design of the petitioners appears to embrace these desirable objects in a more extensive degree, than any which has hitherto been offered for public consideration; and should the plan be adapted in its full extent, by which it is contemplated to form a communication, by means of

the Middlesex canal, of Charlestown, Cambridge, Watertown, Brighton, Brookline and Roxbury, with the great basin west of the neck, a field for improvement & enterprize would be exhibited on all the shores opposite to the western & southerly sides of the Town.

The Committee therefore propose, that the Town should express their approbation of the plan of the petitioners, on the following conditions.—

That the Town will cede or grant to the corporation when organized, the land and flatts lying about the shores of the bay west of Boston neck, as they are limited and circumscribed by streets laid down on a plan herewith [**545**] presented, and which are described as follows.

Beginning at a point 450 feet west of *Beacon street*, thence running Southerly to a point in the direction of the middle line of *South Bridge* street, and 550 feet distant from the west side of *Orange* street, thence Southwesterly to the Westerly line of *Suffolk* street, as laid down in the plan of Town lands, being 350 feet from *Washington* street, thence Westerly at a right angle on *Dedham* street 350 feet, thence Southerly at a right angle on *Middlesex* street 500 feet, thence Westerly at a right angle on *Brookline* street 350 feet, thence Southerly at a right angle on *Worcester* street 900 feet, thence Westerly at a right angle on *Concord* street 350 feet, thence again Southerly at a right angle on *Hampshire* street 1000 feet, and lastly at a right angle westerly on *Northampton* street about 1000 feet to the boundary line between the Towns of Boston and Roxbury. The Town and individual proprietors to retain all the land and flats within said streets.

This Grant be upon the following conditions.

1st. That said corporation shall, within five years from the first day of January 1815, cause to be erected, in a direction prescribed by the legislature, and not further North or East than South Boston bridge, a firm solid Dam from Boston to South Boston, faced with stone on the Northeasterly side at the least, well calculated to endure, and effectually to keep out the tide waters from the eastern basin, with gates, sluiceways &c proper to let the water out of said basin.

2d. That said Corporation shall, within the said time, cause to be erected from the end of Beacon street, to some point directed by the General Court, a firm & solid *Dam*, well calculated to endure, and effectually to retain the tide waters within the basin formed thereby; with gates, sluiceways, &c, proper to admit the tide waters and to retain the same; such Dam, or such part thereof as shall be necessary [**546**] for a Street to Roxbury or Brookline, to be at least forty two feet wide at the top, and of an height sufficient for a good and permanent road thereon, and faced on both sides with substantial Stone walls, except in those

places reserved for Gates and sluices. Which road over said Dam, shall within the same time, be established and finished, in a manner to be provided for by the act of incorporation.

3d. — That the said Corporation, or other persons having a right from said Corporation, shall within five years from 1st. January 1815, erect and employ Mills, with machinery of sufficient power to turn fourteen pair of common sized Mill stones, upon sluiceways leading across Washington street; and in case said Corporation shall fail to perform either of the above conditions within the time aforesaid, then the grant from the Town of Boston shall be wholly void, and the land and flats shall revert to the Town.—

4th. And if at any time after the 1st January 1820, either from the insufficiency of the Dams, want of water, or other cause, there shall fail, for one year, to be kept employed a power sufficient to turn fourteen pair of Mill stones as aforesaid, then all said land and flats, shall revert to the Town — But should previous to such failure, any of the lands or flats hereby granted under the aforegoing conditions have been sold by said Corporation, conditioned to erect Mills with their necessary buildings and establishments; then, in order to do ample justice to the parties who may be injured by the non-fulfilment of the agreement on the part of the Corporation, such lands shall be appraised by Commissioners to be appointed for that purpose, on the joint agreement of the Town and the parties, to appraise the value of said lands exclusive of any buildings, and their award shall be binding on such individuals and on the Town. —

5th. — That in selecting situations for building Mills on land belonging to the Town the sd. Corporation shall be first [**547**] restricted to the six most northerly streets, which are laid out from east to west across the Town's land on the neck; and shall have liberty to lay sluice ways in the middle of said streets, free of any expence, for the land so passed through; provided that such sluiceways shall be substantially and well laid with stone in every part, and of suitable depth to serve as drains and common sewers to the adjacent lots. And the owners of such lots shall have liberty to convey their drains into said sluices free of expence. And all earth dug from the trenches to lay said sluiceways, shall not be carried away, but shall be spread to form the streets and raise the Town's lots, and all pavement taken up for this purpose shall be relaid at the expense of the Corporation.

6th. — That all damages or injury of whatever kind which shall arise to any individual within the Town of Boston in consequence of this agreement between the Town & said Corporation, shall be compensated & paid by said Corporation, in the manner to be provided by an Act of the General Court.

7th. — And whenever the Town or other owners abutting upon any of the streets which are designated as the boundaries of the Towns grant, shall agree to build any of such streets, the expence of building the same, when the Corporation shall abutt on the other side, shall be borne, one half by said Corporation and one

half by the abutters. provided that the Town shall not be at any charge in maintaining any such streets, untill they shall have been completed to the approbation of the surveyors of highways.—

And it is further agreed by the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston.

8th. — That if said Corporation should think it expedient, they shall have liberty to cut a *Canal* in some convenient place between South Boston Bridge and Gibsons wharf, in a direction, and of dimensions, suitable to admit vessels of one hundred & twenty tons burthen, from the east harbour into the full basin on the west, provided that such canal shall be well faced with stone on both sides; and that a street shall be made on each side thereof not less than thirty feet wide: one of which streets shall border immediately upon the Canal, & the other shall not be more than one hundred feet distant from the [548] other side of said Canal. And the land through & over which said Canal & street shall pass, shall be purchased by said Corporation. and said Canal and streets shall be built and finished at the expence of said Corporation; said Canal to be furnished with suitable gates or locks for the admission of Vessels, and also with draw bridges of the most approved construction when it shall intersect Front street and Orange street. Said Canal shall be toll free; but the maintenance of the same, for repairs, for working the gates and raising the draws, shall be at the expence of the Corporation.—

9th.— And if said Corporation should think it expedient, they shall have liberty to dig a Canal through the Town's land on the Westerly side of the Neck, from the full basin to Roxbury in a line parallel to Washington street, and at such distance therefrom, and of such depth and width as shall be regulated and approved by the Trustees for managing the Town's lands on the neck. And the earth taken out to form said Canal shall be for the use of said Corporation to build the Dam or other purposes.

And the Committee further recommend, That agents be appointed by the Town, to attend the sittings of the Committee of the General Court, to whom the petition is referred; to have the above recited conditions inserted in the act of incorporation, or made the subject of a special instrument of agreement, between the petitioners and the Town, which shall be referred to and confirmed by the Act of the Legislature. And that such Committee be directed to have inserted in the act of incorporation, such terms and regulations of Subscriptions for Shares as shall secure a right of subscription for a due proportion of such shares, to all persons who may wish to engage in the undertaking.

By order of the Committee

Charles Bulfinch, Chairman.

The foregoing Report, was read, considered and nearly unanimously accepted by the Town — and Thomas Dawes, William Sullivan, Josiah Marshall, [549] Charles Davis & William Hammatt Esquires, were chosen agents agreeably to the recommendation in the report.

The article in the Warrant "To consider the petition of a number of the Inhabitants, that the Town would take measures for establishing a work house, which may be also used as a house of correction," was taken up & committed to,

Thomas Dawes, Bryant P. Tilden, James T. Austin, Ozias Goodwin, Ephraim Eliot, Charles Bulfinch & Redford Webster, Esquires, to take the subject into consideration and report at the adjournment.

The Petition of David Greenough was committed to the Selectmen, to report thereon at the adjournment.

The Committee on the late Town Treasurers accounts made the following report — which was read & accepted — viz —

Boston August 13th. 1813 —

We the majority of the Committee appointed by the Town of Boston by a vote of said Town, of the 12th. July last to "audit the accounts of the late Town Treasurer, to receive from him the books, records and papers belonging to the treasury department, and those of the Collector of Taxes, and to transfer the same to the new Treasurer," having attended that duty, they find the annexed accounts to be correct & form a true statement of the affairs and official transactions of William Smith Esq. late Town Treasurer, and the Committee have this day delivered over to Andrew Sigourney Esq. the present Town Treasurer, all the books, papers, securities and other property belonging to the Town of Boston in the department of its treasury late in the possession of Wm. Smith Esq.— The abovenamed accounts are well & truly vouched & right cast.—

Bryant P. Tilden
Samuel Dorr

Adjourned to Wednesday 10th November next 10 OClock AM.—

[**550.**] Wednesday November the 10th.
The Town met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition of David Greenough, not being ready to report, the subject was referred to the next Town Meeting.—

The Committee chosen by the Town to consider what measures should be taken for establishing a work house, which may also serve as a house of Correction,— Report the following view of the subject.—

In the year 1735 the General Court of the then Province, upon application of the Town of Boston, passed an act for employing and providing for the poor of the town of Boston; by which act

the Town was empowered to build a workhouse, and adopt regulations for its government. — In the year 1789 a law was passed by the Legislature of this Commonwealth, entitled "An act for erecting of workhouses, for the reception and employment of the idle and indigent. This law is general and empowers every town, or any number of towns who may unite for the purpose, to build workhouses, and directs the proceedings of the overseers therein.

The laws above recited empower towns to erect and endow workhouse, but do not compel them so to do. But we find that in 1788, an act was passed "for suppressing and punishing Rogues, vagabonds common beggars, and other idle, disorderly and lewd persons" by which act it is *ordered*, that there shall be erected or provided by the Court of Sessions in every County, a fit and convenient *house of correction*, for the keeping and correcting and setting to work of Rogues, Vagabands &c. the provisions of this law are effectual, and at the same time founded on the most humane principles, calculated for the suppression of vice and for the reformation of the offenders, subject to its regulations. — The practice under these laws has been as follows. — Immediately after the Town of Boston had been empowered in 1735 to build a workhouse, [**551**] measures were taken for that purpose; and by means of subscriptions in aid of the Town's funds, the building was erected; and it was used principally under the orders of the Overseers of the poor; no house of correction was ever built in this county as directed by the law of 1788; but a part of the workhouse was appropriated for a Bridewell; under the control of the Justices, untill the erection of the new Almshouse, when the land and buildings of the old Almshouse and workhouse were sold.

The agents appointed by the Town to superintend the building of an Alms house, workhouse and hospital, proceeded to erect one building for an Alms house, intending to appropriate such parts thereof as could be spared, for the other objects; but contemplating that separate buildings should be devoted to those purposes, whenever the Town should be able to bear the expense. — The inconveniences of this arrangement were experienced within one year after the erection of the Alms house. A large Committee raised in 1802, reported to the Town, that no division of the Alms house could be set apart for a house of correction, without greatly incommoding the poor, and conclude their report by saying "that they would propose that measures should be taken immediately for the erection of a separate building, were they not sensible of the burthen the Town laboured under to discharge the balance due upon the almshouse. — The Overseers of the poor also, in a memorial addressed to the Town in May 1812, represented the inconveniences under which they laboured, from the necessity of appropriating rooms for a work house and bridewell; and stated, "that they had endeavoured as much as possible to accommodate the various descriptions of persons, under all the disadvantages to which the institution must be

subject; under the full hope, that the finances of the Town would soon enable it to finish the establishment according to the original plan."

With respect to the actual state of the Almshouse, your Committee find, that there are at present in that house 403 persons of which 283 are old people, invalids, children &c — 50 sick persons in the hospital rooms, 20 insane persons, affected in various [552] degrees, some go at large, others are in close confinement, 50 persons employed at work, some well disposed & able of body, but above ten of them are subjects for a bridewell or house of correction & are locked up.

The Committee think that every human mind will be convinced of the utter impossibility of adding to this catalogue of wretchedness, any of those debauched and profligate persons who are fit subjects for a house of correction.—

As the law directs that the County Jail shall be used by the Justices for a house of Correction untill a suitable one shall be provided; your Committee have also enquired into the present state of the Jail. — They find that it now contains fifty-seven persons, and this number is smaller than has been usual, owing to the increased powers of the Municipal Court; which has given greater dispatch to the criminal business, by the frequent Sessions of that Court and by its power of sending the convicts to the State Prison. — Of the persons now in Jail 25 are confined for assaults and batteries & petty offences, who are properly subjects for a house of correction: it may be received as a fact, that at least 12 persons of this description are permanent tenants of the Jail; they are assembled together in rooms, not less than 6 in any room; are absolutely idle and unemployed; and instead of their confinement effecting the purposes of reformation, they are vitiating and debasing each other, by their language and example. These objects are at a constant expence to the public of two dollars Per week each, whereas, if they were in a building properly constructed for seclusion, kept upon spare diet, and with work suited to their capacities, they would certainly support themselves; & might be in a measure reformed and made acquainted with some reputable means of obtaining a livelihood.

Your Committee think it would be a reflection on this intelligent community to enlarge further, or comment upon this statement.— If in the year 1735 the town required a house of this description, how much more necessary is it now? If in 1802 it was considered inconvenient to the virtuous poor to mix the vicious & profligate with them, how much more so now, when the pressure of the times drives many persons into that house, who a few years since felt no apprehension of being under the necessity of asking public charity.

Having considered the proposed establishment necessary, The Committee have made such estimates as the time would permit, [553] and are of opinion that a building to answer the present purposes of the Town, might be erected on the land west of the

Almshouse, for 20,000 Dollars; which sum could be borrowed of individuals, to be repaid in instalments in 5 years, without being an oppressive burthen upon the Citizens.—

They therefore propose that the Town should pass the following votes.— That the Overseers of the Poor be appointed Agents for building a work house, part of which may be used for a house of correction, on the land west of the present Almshouse; to commence the same as soon as the season will permit.

That in constructing said building, they be directed to build such part thereof as shall appear to them necessary in the present state of the Town, and upon a plan capable of enlargement in future.—

That the said Overseers be empowered to borrow of individuals or of public institutions the sum of twenty five thousand Dollars for the purpose of erecting & furnishing the proposed building, the interest of which sum shall be paid annually by the Town Treasurer, and the principal to be paid in annual instalments of 5000 dollars each: for the payment of which, that amount shall be annually raised by taxes, & appropriated for that purpose.

Charles Bulfinch.

The foregoing Report was read, considered and unanimously accepted by the Town.—

attest Tho' Clark, Town Clerk

Voted, That the thanks of the Town be given to the Moderator for his services at this Meeting.

Then the Meeting was Dissolved.

[End of Book Nine.]

LETTER FROM S. PARKMAN BLAKE TO CITY CLERK S. F. McCLEARY (*see* p. 194).

Cedar Square
Boston Highlands.

S. F. McCleary Esq.
City Clerk,
My dear sir.

As a good deal of public interest is taken in the valuable portraits in Faneuil Hall and particularly in the most valuable — that of Washington by Stuart, I find in the Town Records on March 10- 1806 that my Grandfather Samuel Parkman offered to give to the Town a copy of the painting by Stuart to be placed in Faneuil Hall which offer was accepted.

As I am the oldest member of the Parkman family, I wish to have justice done to his memory and to State (as there does not appear to be any other record on the Town books) that my Grandfather did not give the copy proposed, but gave the original by Stuart, which is the same which is now in Faneuil Hall. This fact has always been known in the family and to confirm the same I herewith give a copy of a letter received from Miss Jane Stuart now living in Newport R. I. the Daughter of Gilbert Stuart (herself an Artist) She says dated July 22^{d} 1874 address^{d} to Revd John Parkman :

" The Picture of Washington now in Faneuil Hall was painted by my Father Gilbert Stuart and presented to the Town of Boston by Samuel Parkman. This circumstance is too much impressed on my mind to admit of any doubt whatever. Also that it was copied from the original head now in the Athenaeum. Now, my dear sir, if you will take the trouble to read the July number of " Scribner's Monthly " you will find an authentic history of the Washington Portraits, written by myself. You will there see that my Father never finished but two Heads of the great Patriot. Permit me to add that my Father never put his name to any Picture, he ever painted in his life."

very respectfully,
Y^{r} ob^{t} s^{t},
1877 S Parkman Blake.

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